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Henry Smith Brown

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*Classics in the Grades*

# ORATION AT VALLEY FORGE

June 19, 1878

The One Hundredth Anniversary of the Departure of the  
Army of the Revolution from Winter Quarters at that Place

*BY*

HENRY ARMITT BROWN

WITH BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH  
AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

*BY*

A. J. DEMAREST, A. M.,

Superintendent of Public Schools, Hoboken, N. J.



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## PREFATORY NOTE TO THE TEACHER

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BEFORE the reading of this oration is taken up for class work, the teacher should make a careful study of that period of our history known as the "Formation of the Nation," which includes the controversy with England, resistance leading to independence, and the struggle for independence, in order to give a correct interpretation of this great masterpiece. While this oration will appeal to the ordinary reader, yet for a study of it, such as may be required for the class-room, some preliminary work is essential. This critical study should be of a two-fold character: first, the historical foundations upon which the orator built his framework; second, references to orations of others, similar in character, with which portions of this oration may be compared and contrasted.

### OUTLINE FOR CLASS READING

The appreciation of a classic improves with each reading, and this oration should be read by the class at least three times.

### FIRST READING

The first step in the reading of any classic is to read it as a whole, for the purpose of permitting the student to get the thread of the discourse. This can best be done by a single rapid reading. In no sense should this reading be used as a formal reading lesson. We shall make an inevitable failure if we attempt to teach reading in connection with literary appreciation of a classic. The first lessons, then, should require merely an intelligent reading. *It should be read aloud in a pleasing manner, to get a good under-*

## 6      *PREFATORY NOTE TO THE TEACHER*

standing of the discourse. Do not stop to look up words or to refer to the notes. Each day's reading should be so planned that it will stop at some interesting place, in order to keep up sustained interest on the part of the class. When we have read and have grasped the oration as a whole, we are ready for the second reading.

### SECOND READING

In reading this oration a second time, we should aim to study the mechanical means by which the orator secured his effects. In this detailed study the teacher should do all the reading, planning each day's lesson so that it will stop at some logical place in the discourse. During the second reading the student should form clear conceptions of—

(a) *The Characters*.—Are the descriptions of the characters vivid? Can you see them? Can you call up a clear mental picture of them? Does Mr. Brown succeed in presenting a complete picture of the various men—are they real to you? How and why came Washington and his army to Valley Forge? Did he come flushed with the triumph of victory? Did he bring with him a conquered army? Where was Howe at this time? Contrast the Revolutionary army at Valley Forge—poverty and patriotism, rags and resolution, bold, determined men writing upon the snows and ice of winter as their parchment in their own blood, their deeds of valor and renown—with the British army in Philadelphia, flushed with victory, fearless of defeat, wearing the winter away with feasting and revelry.

Call the roll of the heroes of Valley Forge, and comment upon the services rendered by each—George Washington, Marquis de Lafayette, Baron Steuben, Baron de Kalb, Count Pulaski, General Knox, Light Horse Harry Lee, Generals Sullivan, Wayne, Greene, Armstrong, and Colonel Hamilton. Emphasize the fact that there is another class of heroes, worthy of all honor *and praise—not the men who bore commissions and wore epauletts—the private soldiers, the rank and file, the noble men who*

died unknown to fame, who sleep in unmarked graves. Does the author reveal himself in his work? Can you infer his likes and dislikes? his favorite study? his favorite books?

(b) *The Setting*.—Where is the scene laid? At what time of the year? Is the encampment vividly portrayed? Is there enough description to give a clear idea of the situation? Select the best descriptive passages. Can you see the encamped soldiers, the fortifications, the entrenchments, the log huts, the shoeless soldiers, the hospitals, the frozen ground, the cheerless campfires, blood stains upon the frozen ground, and the graves of the unknown dead? Lay stress upon the fact that, notwithstanding the sufferings and privations endured by these devoted troops, month after month, harassed by the storms of one of the severest winters ever known in that region, the love of country, the hope of victory, and an abiding confidence in their great leader sustained them in the darkest period of their struggle for liberty. Do the descriptions of nature surpass the delineations of personal portraits?

(c) *The Structure of the Oration*.—Every well-constructed oration has an introduction. Is the introduction of this oration clearly marked? Where does it end? What is the purpose of the introduction? Does it properly introduce the subject? Does it arouse an interest in the subject? The body or framework of an oration is called the discourse or discussion. What is the central theme of the discussion? State it clearly in a sentence. Is there more than one theme? If so, are they closely related? Does the oration possess unity? Are there any digressions? Do these digressions violate the unity of the oration? Does Mr. Brown appeal to the intellect or to the emotional nature of his audience or to both? The conclusion of an essay or oration is called the peroration. The purpose of the peroration is to sum up the main points of the discussion; to restate some points with emphasis; or to make a favorable impression at the conclusion. Where does the peroration begin? Does it serve the purpose or purposes of a peroration? Is the style different from the introduction or the discussion?

(d) *The Style*.—Select words that are strong and terse: expressions that are highly polished or ornamental. Read the best passages aloud and note the rhythm of the sentences. Does it possess individuality? Is the work characterized by accuracy of statement? sincerity? sympathetic appreciation? keen analysis? Of the three chief qualities of style—clearness, force, and beauty—which is most marked here? Are the sentences clear, short, long, or of average length? Are the paragraphs short, medium, or long? Does he use words precisely? Which of the following words best describe his diction: clear, simple, polished, ornate, terse, polished, idiomatic, obscure, colloquial, verbose?

(e) *Memory Gems*.—The pupils should be encouraged to select choice passages for memorization and to state their reasons for their selection.

(f) *Collateral Reading*.—Select another oration and compare it with this one in the chief points of the outline. Note particularly points in which there is a marked difference. To what is this difference due—the time, the subject, or to the men themselves? The number of great orators whose orations survive as literature is very limited. Burke, Pitt, Sheridan, Fox, Calhoun, Clay, Webster, Everett, Lincoln, Sumner, Phillips, and Grady are among the most distinguished.

(g) *Composition and Outline Work*.—Brief compositions may be written upon selected topics. The following list of composition subjects may be profitably used in connection with the study of the oration:

- a. Lafayette, the Lover of Liberty.
- b. The French Alliance.
- c. First Steps toward Independence.
- d. The Battlefields of Pennsylvania.
- e. The Glory of Valley Forge.
- f. Valley Forge vs. Waterloo.
- g. The Military Services of Baron Steuben.
- h. George Washington at Valley Forge.
- i. *The Many-sided Franklin*.
- j. *Alexander Hamilton vs. Aaron Burr*.

- k. America One Hundred Years Ago.
- l. Was the Execution of Major Andre justifiable?

THIRD READING

This reading should be free from all criticism, and should be given for the purpose of permitting the student to enjoy the revealed beauty of the oration.





# VALLEY FORGE

**An Oration Delivered on the Hundredth Anniversary of the Departure of the Army of the Revolution from that Place.**

BY HENRY ARMITT BROWN<sup>1</sup>

---

It is an honor to be here to-day. It is a privilege to behold this anniversary. This unusual spectacle, these solemn services, these flags and decorations, this tuneful choir, this military array, this distinguished company, this multitude darkening all the hill-side, proclaim the general interest and attest its magnitude. And it is proper to commemorate this time. One hundred years ago this country was the scene of extraordinary events and very honorable actions. We feel the influence of them in our institutions and our daily lives, and it is both natural and right for us to seek, by some means, to mark their hundredth anniversaries.

Why is it an honor to be here to-day? Why a privilege? Why should this event be commemorated? In what way do we feel the influence of these extraordinary events in our institutions and in our daily lives? Why preserve the memory of other years? Why should these battles be named and more highly honored?

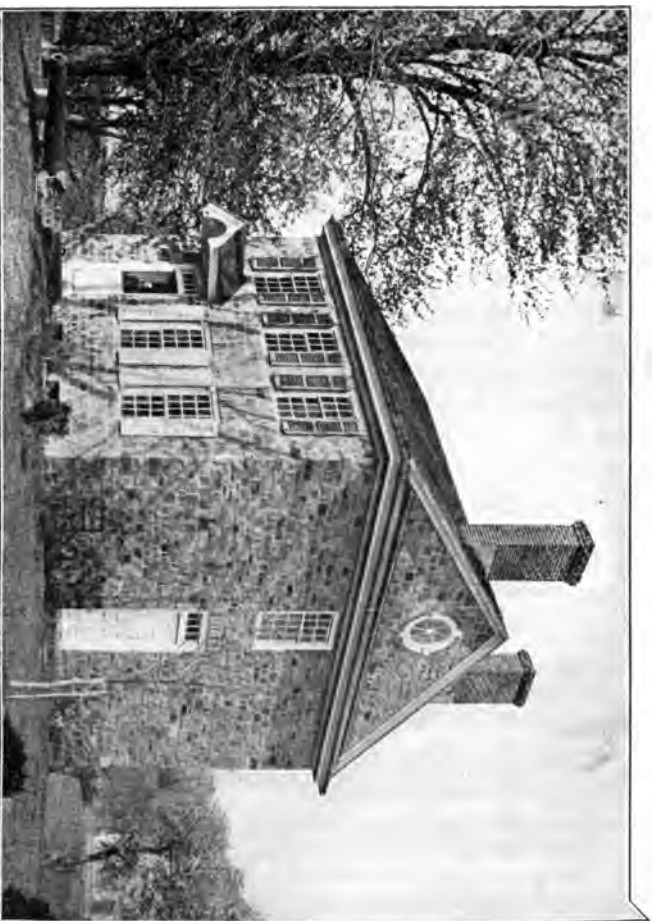
<sup>1</sup> See sketch, page 97.

Those moments are passing quickly. Lexington, Bunker Hill, Germantown, Saratoga, have gone by already. Monmouth, Stony Point, Eutaw, and Yorktown are close at hand. It is eminently fit that we should gather here.

I cannot add to what has already been said about this place. The deeds which have made it famous have passed into history. The page on which they are recorded is written. We can neither add to it nor take away. The heroic dead who suffered here are far beyond our reach. No human eulogy can make their glory greater, no failure to do them justice make it less. Theirs is a perfect fame,—safe, certain, and complete. Their trials here secured the happiness of a continent; their labors have borne fruit in the free institutions of a powerful nation; their examples give hope to every race and clime; their names live on the lips of a grateful

The battle of Lexington was fought April 19, 1775; Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775; Germantown, October 4, 1777; Saratoga (surrender), October 17, 1777; Monmouth, June 28, 1778; Stony Point, July 16, 1779; Eutaw, September 8, 1781; Yorktown, October 19, 1781.

Why cannot the orator add to what has already been said about Valley Forge? Name the deeds that have made this place famous. In this connection, emphasize the fact that "the paths of glory lead but to the grave." Why can no human eulogy make their glory greater? In what respect is theirs a perfect fame? Recount what has been accomplished by their trials, their labors, and their examples. Why should their names live on the lips of a grateful people? Why should their memories *be cherished*? What is the purpose of this anniversary? What *is the spirit appropriate to the hour*?



WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS AT VALLEY FORGE

people; their memory is cherished in their children's hearts, and shall endure forever. It is not for their sakes, then, but for our own, that we have assembled here to-day. This anniversary, if I understand it right, has a purpose of its own. It is duty that has brought us here. The spirit appropriate to this hour is one of humility rather than of pride, of reverence rather than of exultation. We come, it is true, the representatives of forty millions of free men by ways our fathers never dreamed of, from regions of which they never heard. We come in the midst of plenty, under a sky of peace, power in our right hand and the keys of knowledge in our left. But we are here to learn rather

What does Mr. Brown mean by the following expressions: "by ways our fathers never dreamed of," "in the midst of plenty," "under a sky of peace," "power in our right hand," "the keys of knowledge in our left"? In the judgment of Mr. Brown, what are the purposes of the celebration? What are the sources of our country's greatness? What is the meaning of this anniversary? To what olden time does the orator refer? What is an inspiration? Why cannot the orator do justice to his theme? Name the lessons to be pointed out to future generations.

Name the introduction to this oration. Compare this introduction with the introduction to Webster's Bunker Hill Monument Oration; Lincoln's Gettysburg Oration.

Does this introduction prepare the way for the discussion? Does it serve to arouse an interest in the subject? Does it indicate the manner in which the subject is to be treated? What purpose or purposes does the introduction accomplish? On what subjects are orations usually delivered? An orator always *has some definite aim*: what is the aim in this oration? State *in your own language* the purpose of an introduction or exordium.

than to teach; to worship, not to glorify. We come to contemplate the sources of our country's greatness; to commune with the honored past; to remind ourselves and show our children that joy can come out of sorrow, happiness out of suffering, light out of darkness, life out of death.

Such is the meaning of this anniversary. I cannot do it justice. Would that there could come to some one in this multitude a tongue of fire,—an inspiration born of the time itself, that, standing in this place and speaking with the voice of olden time, he might tell us in fitting language of our fathers! But it cannot be. Not even now. Not even here. Perhaps we do not need it. Some of us bear their blood, and all alike enjoy the happiness their valor and endurance won. And if my voice be feeble, we have but to look around. The hills that saw them suffer look down on us; the ground that thrilled beneath their feet we tread to-day; their unmarked graves still lie in yonder field; the breastworks which they built to shelter them surround us here! Dumb witnesses of the heroic past, ye need no tongues! Face to face with you we see it all;—this soft breeze changes to an icy blast; these trees drop the glory of the summer, and the earth beneath our feet is wrapped in snow. Beside us is a village of log huts;

The dimensions of each hut were fourteen by sixteen feet, with chimney, fireplace, and door, facing upon company streets. Quarters for field and staff officers were erected in rear of the line of troops. The hills were made bare of timber in completing the shelter necessary for men and animals.

along that ridge smoulder the fires of the camp. The sun has sunk, the stars glitter in the inky sky, the camp is hushed, the fires are out, the night is still. All are in slumber save when a lamp glimmers in a cottage window, and a passing shadow shows a tall figure pacing to and fro. The cold silence is unbroken, save when on yonder rampart, crunching the crisp snow with wounded feet, a ragged sentinel keeps watch for Liberty!

The close of 1777 marked the gloomiest period of the Revolution. The early enthusiasm of the struggle had passed away. The doubts which the first excitements banished had returned. The novelty of war had gone, and its terrors become awfully familiar. Fire and sword had devastated some of the best parts of the country, its cities were half ruined, its fields laid waste, its re-

In which line does the author foreshadow the general trend of his oration? State in your own language why the close of 1777 marked the gloomiest period of the Revolution.

"At no period of the war," writes Chief-justice Marshall, "had the American army been reduced to a situation of greater peril than during the winter at Valley Forge. More than once they were absolutely without food. Even while their condition was less desperate in this respect, their stock of provisions was so scanty that there was seldom at any time in the stores a quantity sufficient for the use of the troops for a week. The returns on the first of February exhibit the astonishing number of three thousand nine hundred and eighty-nine men in camp unfit for duty for want of clothes. Of this number, scarcely a man had a pair of shoes. Although the total of the army exceeded *seven-teen thousand men*, the present effective rank and file amounted *to only five thousand and twelve.*"

sources drained, its best blood poured out in sacrifice. The struggle now had become one of endurance, and while liberty and independence seemed as far off as ever, men began to appreciate the tremendous cost at which they were to be purchased. The capture of Burgoyne had, after all, been only a temporary check to a powerful and still unexhausted enemy. Nor was its effect on the Americans themselves wholly beneficial. It had caused the North to relax, in a great measure, its activity and vigilance, and, combined with the immunity from invasion which the South had enjoyed,

The capture of Burgoyne and his army of 6000 men was the most substantial triumph that the patriots had thus far gained in the war. It spread dismay in England. France acknowledged the independence of the United States, and the two nations pledged themselves to make a common cause against Great Britain. In addition, France agreed to send to our assistance a fleet of 16 war vessels and an army of 4000 men.

"A friend to whom Mr. Brown read this oration pointed out the fact that the capture of Burgoyne's army had been considered by all the latest and most accurate historians as the undoubted turning-point of the war, and that Creasy had included the battle of Bemus's Heights in the *Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World*. Mr. Brown said that, although it had undoubtedly proved to be so, he felt that in picturing the feeling of the day he was justified in using the impression left on the mind of so distinguished an actor as Lafayette; but that, when the oration was printed, he would add a note that would protect him from any criticism prompted by the supposition that, biased by local prejudice, he had spoken lightly of a brilliant event which occurred in a neighboring state in order to give prominence to the trials of Valley Forge."—J. M. HOPPIN.



“to lull asleep two-thirds of the continent.” While a few hundred ill-armed, half-clad Americans guarded the Highlands of the Hudson, a well-equipped garrison, several thousand strong, lived in luxury in the city of New York. The British fleet watched with the eyes of Argus the rebel coast. Rhode Island lay undisputed in their hands; Georgia, Virginia, and the Carolinas were open to their invasion, and as incapable of defence as Maryland had been when they landed in the Chesapeake. Drawn upon for the army, the sparse population could not half till the soil, and the savings of laborious years had all been spent. While the miserable paper currency which Congress, with a fatal folly never to be absent from the counsels of men, continued to issue and call money, obeyed natural rather than artificial laws, and fell four hundred per cent., coin flowed to Philadelphia and New York, and in spite of military orders and civil edicts, the scanty produce of the country followed it. Nor could the threatened penalty of death restrain the evil. Want began to be widely

ARGUS: In the Greek legend Argus was the guardian of Io, slain by Hermes, and is said to have had a hundred eyes.

The summer of 1780 was the gloomiest time in the whole course of the war. Because Congress could not tax the people, and could not get enough money from the states by asking for it, there was great difficulty in carrying on the war. Some money was borrowed from France and Holland, but Congress was obliged to issue its notes or promises to pay. Such notes, when issued by a government, are commonly called paper money. In the summer of 1780 *this money became worthless. It took \$2000 in Continental currency to buy an ordinary suit of clothes.*

felt, and the frequent proclamations of the British, accompanied with Tory intrigue and abundant gold, to have effect. To some, even of the wisest, the case was desperate. Even the elements seemed to combine against the cause. A deluge prevented a battle at the Warren Tavern, a fog robbed Washington of victory at Germantown, and at last, while the fate of America hung on the courage, the fortitude, and the patriotism of eleven thousand half-clothed, half-armed, hungry Continentals, who, discomfited but not discouraged, beaten but not disheartened, suffering but steadfast still, lay on their firelocks on the frozen ridges of Whitemarsh, a British army nineteen thousand five hundred

**WARREN TAVERN:** A hamlet of Chester County, Pennsylvania, twelve miles W. S. W. of Norristown, where the two armies had an engagement September 16, 1777, with an American loss of about one hundred men.

**GERMANTOWN:** When Washington learned that Howe had sent a detachment down the river to seize Forts Mercer and Mifflin he determined to crush the British at Germantown. In the early morning, October 4th, his army, in two columns, advanced upon the village. The central column drove in the British outposts and was forcing back the British line opposite. Greene was also the right flank, when an accident happened to destroy the whole plan. Stephen, who was upon the right of Greene's division, came on through the heavy fog, and, mistaking the American left-center for the enemy, charged upon them. This at once caused a panic, and the Americans retreated, Wayne protecting the rear.

**WHITEMARSH:** A post-township of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, about eleven miles northwest of Philadelphia. A battle occurred here between the main armies December 3, 1777.

strong, of veteran troops, perfectly equipped, freshly recruited from Europe and flushed with recent victory, marched into winter-quarters in the chief city of the nation.

#### THE OCCUPATION OF PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia surely had never seen such gloomy days as those which preceded the entry of the British. On the 24th of August the American army marched through the length of Front Street; on the 25th the British landed at the head of Elk. Days of quiet anxiety ensued. On the 11th of September, as Tom Paine was writing a letter to Dr. Franklin, the sound of cannon in the southwest interrupted him. From

THOMAS PAINE, generally styled "Tom Paine," was secretary to the Congressional Committee on Foreign Affairs. His services in the Revolution were of undoubted value. His pamphlet, "Common Sense," is thought to have brought about the Declaration of Independence, and in his "Crisis" he wrote "These are the times that try men's souls."

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN at this time was in Europe. He was in London as agent for several of the colonies when the Revolution broke out, but he immediately returned to America. He was one of the committee of five to draft the Declaration of Independence. He went to France in 1776 as ambassador, and it was his skilful hand that negotiated the treaty with that country, without which the Revolution could hardly have succeeded. He assisted in making the treaty of peace with England in 1782, and took part in preparing the Constitution of the United States in 1787. He died in Philadelphia in 1790, aged eighty-four years. *It was said of him that "he wrested the thunder from the sky and the scepter from tyrants."*

morning until late in the afternoon people in the streets listened to the dull sound like distant thunder. About six o'clock it died away, and the straining ear could catch nothing but the souging of the wind. With what anxiety men awaited,—with what suspense! The sun sank in the west, and the shadows crept over the little city. It was the universal hour for the evening meal, but who could go home to eat? Men gathered about the State House to talk, to conjecture, to consult together, and the women whispered in little groups at the doorsteps and craned their necks out of the darkened windows to look nervously up and down the street. About eight o'clock there was a little tumult near the Coffee House. The story spread that Washington had gained a victory, and a few lads set up a cheer. But it was not traced to good authority, and disappointment followed. By nine in the evening the suspense was painful. Suddenly, far up Chestnut Street was heard the clatter of horses' feet. Some one was galloping hard. Down Chestnut, like an arrow, came at full speed a single horseman. He had ridden

Name several historical events associated with the city of Philadelphia. Give reasons why Philadelphia had never seen such gloomy days as those which preceded the entry of the British.

The battle of Brandywine was fought September 11, 1777. On Howe's advance upon Philadelphia from the head of Chesapeake Bay Washington took up a strong position at Brandywine Creek, though he had but 11,000 to oppose Howe's 18,000. The British were masters of the day. Washington retreated to Chester.

fast and his horse was splashed with foam. Hearts beat quickly as he dashed by; past Sixth Street, past the State House, past Fifth, and round the corner into Fourth. The crowd followed, and instantly packed around him as he drew rein at the Indian Queen. He threw a glance at the earnest faces that were turned toward him and spoke: "A battle has been fought at the Birmingham Meeting-house, on the Brandywine; the army has been beaten; the French Marquis Lafayette shot through the leg. His Excellency has fallen back

MARQUIS DE (MARIE JEAN PAUL, JOSEPH ROCHE YVES GILBERT DU MOTIER) LAFAYETTE, the distinguished soldier and statesman, was born at Chavagnac, France, in 1757. He died in Paris, at the age of seventy-seven years. As a boy he was page to the queen. He was but nineteen years old when he embraced the cause of liberty in America. Against the command of the King of France, he freighted a ship at his own expense and landed in America in 1777, to offer his services as a simple volunteer. He quickly won the favor of Congress and the life-long friendship of Washington. He was made a major-general, and showed considerable ability as a commander. He was wounded at Brandywine while rallying the retreating Americans. He was engaged in various battles during the Revolution, and it was largely through his efforts that the army of Rochambeau was sent to America in 1780. He assisted materially in cutting off the retreat of the British at Yorktown, and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis. For his services he was publicly thanked by Washington on the day after the surrender. He was one of the board of judges that tried Major Andre. He visited America in 1784, and was everywhere received with great affection and respect. He again visited the United States in 1824 as the guest of *the nation*. Congress voted him \$200,000 and a township of *land for his losses and expenses* in the Revolution.

to Chester; the road below is full of stragglers." And then the crowd scattered, each one to his home, but not to sleep. A few days followed, full of contradictory stories. The armies are manœuvring on the Lancaster Road. Surely Washington will fight another battle. And then the news came and spread like lightning,—Wayne has been surprised, and his brigade massacred at the Paoli, and the enemy are in full march for Philadelphia; the Whigs are leaving by hundreds; the authorities are

CHESTER, the oldest town in the state of Pennsylvania, was settled by the Swedes in 1643. The provincial assembly of William Penn's government was held here in 1682.

PAOLI, Pennsylvania: Here the British, under Major-general Grey, made a night attack upon Wayne's detachment September 20, 1777. Wayne held his position for an hour, saved his artillery, but lost 150 men.

ANTHONY WAYNE was one of the most active and conspicuous characters of the war. He was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, in 1745. His bravery gained him the sobriquet of "Mad Anthony," but he was discreet and cautious, quick in decision, and prompt in execution. His most notable exploit was the storming of Stony Point on the Hudson. This formidable work he carried at midnight by a bayonet charge, the soldiers' guns being empty. For his brilliant achievement at Stony Point Congress gave him a vote of thanks and a gold medal. In his eventful life he was a farmer and land surveyor. He served in the Pennsylvania legislature, and was a member of the convention of his state that ratified the Constitution of the United States. He died in 1796, less than fifty-two years of age.

WHIGS: The name taken by the party in the colonies which furthered the Revolution, because their principles were but the application to America of those principles which the Whigs of England had secured through the Revolution of 1688.

going; the Congress have gone; the British have arrived at Germantown. Who can forget the day that followed?

A sense of something dreadful about to happen hangs over the town. A third of the houses are shut and empty. Shops are unopened, and busy rumor flies about the streets. Early in the morning the sidewalks are filled with a quiet, anxious crowd. The women watch behind bowed windows with half-curious, half-frightened looks. The men, solemn and subdued, whisper in groups, "Will they come to-day?" "Are they here already?" "Will they treat us like a conquered people?" It was inevitable since the hot-bloods would have war. Sometimes the Tory can be detected by an exultant look, but the general sentiment is gloomy. The morning drags along. By ten o'clock Second Street, from Callowhill to Chestnut, is filled with old men and boys. There is hardly a young man to be seen. About eleven is heard the sound of approaching cavalry, and a squadron of dragoons comes galloping down the street, scattering the boys right and left. The crowd parts to let them by and melts together again. In a few minutes far up the street there is the faint sound of martial music and something moving that glitters in the sunlight. The crowd thickens and is full of hushed expectation. Presently one can see a red mass swaying to and fro. It becomes more an

*Explain the meaning of the following expressions: "hot bloods," "hushed expectation," "red mass," "waves of --- tipped with steel."*

more distinct. Louder grows the music and the tramp of marching men as waves of scarlet, tipped with steel, come moving down the street. They are now but a square off,—their bayonets glancing in perfect line and steadily advancing to the music of "God save the King."

These are the famous grenadiers. Their pointed caps of red, fronted with silver, their white leather leggings and short scarlet coats, trimmed with blue, make a magnificent display. They are perfectly equipped, and look well fed and hearty. Behind them are more cavalry. No, these must be officers. The first one is splendidly mounted and wears the uniform of a general. He is a stout man, with gray hair and a pleasant countenance, in spite of the squint of an eye which disfigures it. A whisper goes through the bystanders: "It is Lord Cornwallis himself." A brilliant staff in various uniforms follows him and five men in civilian's dress. A glance of recognition follows these last like a wave along the street, for they

What is a grenadier?

LORD CORNWALLIS served in the Seven Years' War. He was sent to America in 1776, and fought in the battle of Long Island and pursued Washington's army through New Jersey. He was defeated at Princeton, decided the victory at Brandywine, and served at Germantown and Monmouth. Having been appointed to the command of the southern army, he overwhelmed Gates at Camden. Then followed his campaign in Virginia against Lafayette, the siege of his army at Yorktown, and its surrender to the Franco-American troops on October 17, 1781. He was the ablest of the British generals.



are Joseph Galloway, Enoch Story, Tench Coxe, and the two Allens,—father and son,—Tories, who have only dared to return home behind British bayonets. Long lines of red coats follow till the Fourth, the Fortieth, and the Fifty-fifth Regiments have passed by. But who are these in dark blue that come behind the grenadiers? Breeches of yellow leather, leggings of black, and tall, pointed hats of brass complete their uniform. They wear moustaches, and have a fierce, foreign look, and their unfamiliar music seems to a child in that crowd to cry “Plunder! plunder! plunder!” as it times their rapid march. These are the Hessian mercenaries whom Washington surprised and thrashed so well at Christmas in '76. And now grenadiers and yägers, horse, foot, and artillery that rumbles along making the windows rattle, have all passed by. The Fifteenth Regiment is drawn up on High Street,

“It has been said that, with others, Tench Coxe went out to meet Howe to ask him to protect the city. His conduct, however, was such that he was attainted of treason, and it is also true that he surrendered himself and was acquitted.”—J. M. HOPPIN.

HESSIANS: Early in 1776 the British government made treaties with various German petty principalities by which it obtained mercenaries for the war in America. Under this treaty the Landgrave of Hesse-Cassel sent 17,000 troops, the Duke of Brunswick 6000, the Count of Hesse-Hanau 2400, the Margrave of Anspach 2400, the Prince of Waldeck and the Prince of Anhalt-Zerbst about 1000 each. In all, England paid the princes about nine million dollars. The Hessians, on the whole, fought well. *Some of them settled in this country and Nova Scotia. About 17,000 returned to Germany.*

near Fifth; the Forty-second Highlanders in Chestnut below Third; and the artillery is parked in the State House yard. All the afternoon the streets are full,—wagons with luggage lumbering along, officers in scarlet riding to and fro, aides and orderlies seeking quarters for their different officers. Yonder swarthy, haughty-looking man dismounting at Norris's door is my Lord Rawdon. Lord Cornwallis is quartered at Peter Reeves's in Second, near Spruce, and Knyphausen at Henry Lisle's, nearer to Dock Street, on the east. The younger officers are well bestowed, for Dr. Franklin's house has been taken by a certain clever Captain Andre. The time for the evening parade comes, and the well-equipped regiments are drawn up in line, while slowly to the strains of martial music the sun

LORD RAWDON came to America as a British soldier in 1773. He was a captain at Bunker Hill. As an aide to Sir Henry Clinton he fought at Long Island, White Plains, Fort Washington, and at Monmouth. He incurred much obloquy for the execution of Colonel Isaac Hayne. He was afterward made Governor-general of India.

BARON WILHELM KNYPHAUSEN came to America as second in command of the Hessians in 1776. In 1777 he was placed in command of the German auxiliaries. He fought at Long Island, White Plains, Fort Washington, and Monmouth. During the absence of Sir Henry Clinton he was in command of New York City.

MAJOR JOHN ANDRE (1751-1780) was the Adjutant-general of the British army. He was sent by Clinton to arrange with Arnold the details of the latter's projected treachery. The two had a secret conference near Stony Point. On his way back he

sinks in autumnal splendor in the west. The streets are soon in shadow, but still noisy with the tramping of soldiers and the clatter of arms. In High Street, and on the commons, fires are lit for the troops to do their cooking, and the noises of the camp mingle with the city's hum. Most of the houses are shut, but here and there one stands wide open, while brilliantly dressed officers lounge at the windows or pass and repass in the doorway. The sound of laughter and music is heard, and the brightly lit windows of the London Coffee House and the Indian Queen tell of the parties that are celebrating there the event they think so glorious, and thus, amid sounds of revelry, the night falls on the Quaker City. In spite of Trenton, and Princeton, and Brandywine; in spite of the wisdom of Congress, and the courage and skill of the Commander-in-Chief; in spite of the bravery and fortitude of the Continental army, the forces of the king are in the Rebel capital, and the "all's well" of hostile sentinels keeping guard

was stopped by three men, who refused all the rewards which he offered them, and delivered him and all his papers, which were in Arnold's handwriting, to the nearest American officer. A military court condemned him to death as a spy, and he was hanged at Tappan on October 2, 1780. He was buried in Westminster Abbey, and a monument was many years afterward erected at Tappan in memory of the affair.

In 1683 Philadelphia was chosen as the capital of the colony, and continued to be such for 117 years. During the earlier *part of the Revolution* the city was the capital of the colonies. *The occupation of the city at this time necessitated the removal of*

by her northern border passes unchallenged from the Schuylkill to the Delaware.

What matters it to Sir William Howe and his victorious army if rebels be starving and their ragged currency be almost worthless? Here is gold and plenty of good cheer. What whether they threaten to attack the British lines or disperse through the impoverished country in search of food? The ten redoubts that stretch from Fairmount to Cohocksink Creek are stout and strongly manned, the river is open, and supplies and reinforcements are on the way from England. What if the earth be wrinkled with frost? The houses of Philadelphia are snug and warm. What if the rigorous winter have begun and snow be whitening the hills? Here are mirth and music, and dancing and wine, and women and play, and the pageants of a riotous

the Continental Congress to Lancaster, and subsequently to York, Pennsylvania. In Philadelphia the preliminary Congress of 1774 met; the Continental Congress sat; the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States were adopted, and from 1790 to 1800 it was the capital of the nation.

SIR WILLIAM HOWE served under General Wolfe at Quebec in 1759. In 1775 he succeeded General Gage as commander-in-chief of the British forces in America. He commanded the British troops at Bunker Hill; was victorious in the battles of Long Island and White Plains. He defeated Washington at Brandywine and then entered Philadelphia. After repulsing the American attack at Germantown, he went into winter quarters in Philadelphia. He was removed from his command in 1778 and superseded by Sir Henry Clinton. He was a well-educated and *successful* general, but was indolent or perhaps indifferent.

capital! And so with feasting and with revelry let the winter wear away!

#### THE MARCH TO VALLEY FORGE

The wind is cold and piercing on the old Gulf Road, and the snow-flakes have begun to fall. Who is this that toils up yonder hill, his footsteps stained with blood? "His bare feet peep through his worn-out shoes, his legs nearly naked from the tattered remains of an only pair of stockings, his breeches not enough to cover his nakedness, his shirt hanging in strings, his hair dishevelled, his face wan and thin, his look hungry, his whole appearance that of a man forsaken and neglected." On his shoulder he carries a rusty gun, and the hand that grasps the stock is blue with cold. His comrade is no better off, nor he who follows, for both are barefoot, and the ruts of the rough country road are deep and frozen hard. A fourth comes into view, and still another. A dozen are in sight. Twenty have reached the ridge and there are more to come. See them as they mount the hill that slopes eastward into the great valley. A thousand are in sight, but they are but the vanguard of the motley company that winds down the road until it is lost in the cloud of snow-flakes that have hidden the Gulf hills. Yonder are horsemen in tattered uniforms, and behind them cannon lumbering slowly over the frozen road, half dragged, half pushed by men. They who appear to be in authority have coats of every make *and color*. *Here is one in a faded blue, faced with buckskin that has once been buff; there is another on*

a tall, gaunt horse, wrapped "in a sort of dressing-gown made of an old blanket or woolen bed-cover." A few of the men wear long linen hunting-shirts reaching to the knee, but of the rest no two are dressed alike,—not half have shirts, a third are barefoot, many are in rags. Nor are their arms the same. Cow-horns and tin boxes they carry for want of pouches. A few have swords, fewer still bayonets. Muskets, carbines, fowling-pieces, and rifles are to be seen together side by side.

Are these soldiers that huddle together and bow their heads as they face the biting wind? Is this an army that comes straggling through the valley in the blinding snow? No martial music leads them in triumph into a captured capital; no city full of good cheer and warm and comfortable homes awaits their coming; no sound keeps time to their steps save the icy wind rattling the leafless branches and the dull tread of their weary feet on the frozen ground. In yonder forest must they find their shelter, and on the northern slope of these inhospitable hills their place of refuge. Perils shall soon assault them more threatening than any they encountered under the windows of Chew's house or by the banks of Brandywine. Trials that rarely have failed to break the fortitude of men await them here. False friends shall endeavor to undermine their virtue and secret enemies to shake their faith; the Congress whom they serve shall prove helpless to protect them, *and their country herself seem unmindful of their sufferings*; Cold shall share their habitations and *Hunger*

enter in and be their constant guest; Disease shall infest their huts by day and Famine stand guard with them through the night; Frost shall lock their camp with icy fetters and the snows cover it as with a garment; the storms of winter shall be pitiless,—but all in vain. Danger shall not frighten nor temptation have power to seduce them. Doubt shall not shake their love of country nor suffering overcome their fortitude. The powers of evil shall not prevail against them, for they are the Continental Army, and these are the hills of Valley Forge !

It is not easy to-day to imagine this country as it appeared a century ago. Yonder city, which now contains one-fourth as many inhabitants as were found in those days between Maine and Georgia, was a town of but thirty thousand men, and at the same time the chief city of the continent. The richness of the soil around it had early attracted settlers, and the farmers of the great valley had begun to make that country the garden which it is to-day; but from the top of this hill one could still behold the wilderness under cover of which, but twenty years before, the Indian had spread havoc through the back settlements on the Lehigh and the Susquehanna. The most important place between the latter river and the site of Fort Pitt, “ at the junc-

**FORT PITT:** A large fortification, erected in 1759 by the British *upon the site of Fort Duquesne at the junction of the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers. Fort Pitt was so called in honor of the British minister. Its site is now in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.*

tion of the Ohio," was the frontier village of York, where Congress had taken refuge. The single road which connected Philadelphia with the western country had been cut through the forest to Harris's Block-House but forty years before. It was half a century only since its iron ore had led to the settlement of Lancaster, and little more than a quarter since a single house had marked the site of Reading. The ruins of Colonel Bull's plantation—burned by the British on their march—lay in solitude on the hills which are covered to-day with the roofs and spires of Norristown, and where yonder cloud hangs over the furnaces and foundries of Phoenixville a man named Gordon, living in a cave, gave his name to a crossing of the river. Nor was this spot itself the same. A few small houses clustered about

**HARRIS'S BLOCK-HOUSE:** The site of Harrisburg, the capital of the state.

**JOHN BULL** was colonel of a Pennsylvania Regiment and member of the Board of War.

The proposition to retire the army for the winter gave rise to well-marked differences of opinion. Within army circles the only question was that of location. Whether it should fortify and remain where it was at Whitemarsh, or to retire to the Perkiomen hills, or move south and occupy the vicinity of Wilmington, was canvassed by the leading officers of the army and whose opinions were sought by the commander-in-chief. In selecting Valley Forge for his winter quarters, it was the purpose of Washington to give the greatest measure of protection possible to the state of Pennsylvania, and circumscribe the operations of General Howe within limits that would seriously affect his source of supplies.



Potts' Forge, where the creek tumbled into the Schuylkill, and two or three near the river-bank marked the beginning of a little farm. The axe had cleared much of the bottom-lands and fertile fields of the great valley, but these hills were still wrapped in forest that covered their sides far as the eye could reach. The roads that ascended their ridge on the south and east plunged into densest woods as they climbed the hill and met beneath its shadow at the same spot where to-day a school-house stands in the midst of smiling fields. It is no wonder that Baron de Kalb, as he gazed on the forest of oak and chestnut that covered the sides and summit of Mount Joy, should have described the place bitterly as "a wilderness."

#### THE ENCAMPMENT

But nevertheless it was well chosen. There was no town that would answer. Wilmington and Trenton would have afforded shelter, but in the one the army would have been useless, and in the other in constant danger. Reading and Lancaster were so distant that the choice of either would have left a large district open to the enemy, and both, in which were valuable stores, could be better covered by an army here. Equally distant with Philadelphia from the fords of Brandywine and the ferry into Jersey, the army could

*"POTTS' FORGE" was erected by Daniel Walker and sold to John Potts in 1757. It was called Mount Joy Forge and later Valley Forge, giving its name to the camp.*

move to either point as rapidly as the British themselves, and while distant enough from the city to be safe from surprise or sudden attack itself, it could protect the country that lay between and at the same time be a constant menace to the capital. Strategically, then, the General could not have chosen better. And the place was well adapted for the purpose. The Schuylkill, flowing from the Blue Hills, bent here toward the eastward. Its current was rapid and its banks precipitous. The Valley Creek, cutting its way through a deep defile at right angles to the river, formed a natural boundary on the west. The hill called Mount Joy, at the entrance of that defile, threw out a spur which, running parallel to the river about a mile, turned at length northward and met its banks. On the one side this ridge enclosed a rolling table-land; on the other it sloped sharply to the Great Valley. The engineers under Du Portail marked out a line of intrenchments four feet high, protected by a ditch six feet wide, from the entrance of the Valley Creek defile along the crest of this ridge until it joined the bank of the Schuylkill, where a redoubt marked the eastern angle of the encampment. High on the shoulder of Mount Joy a second line girdled the mountain and then ran northward to the river, broken only by the hollow through which the Gulf Road descended to the Forge. This hollow place

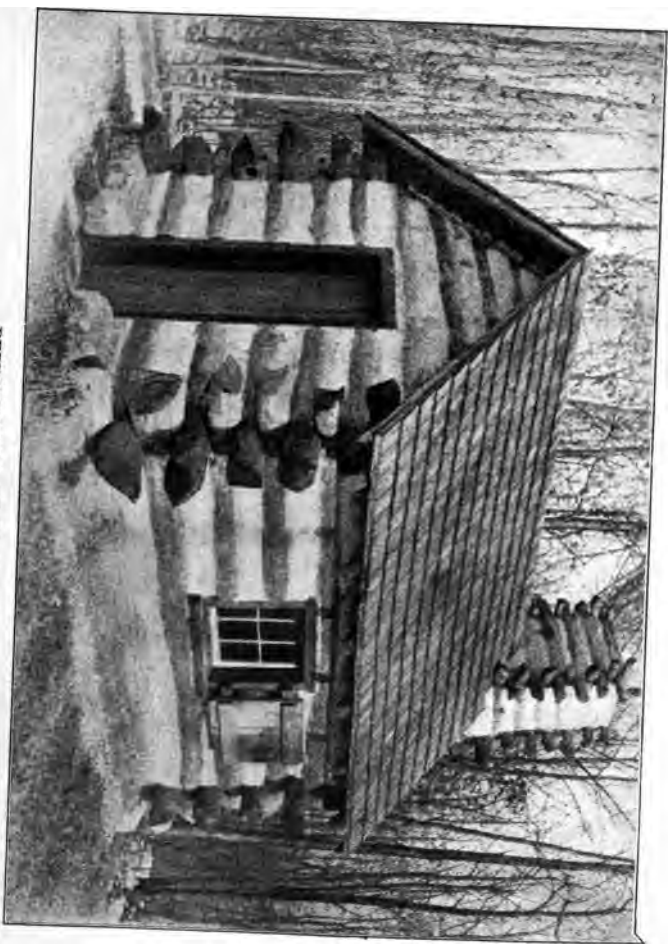
LOUIS LEBÈQUE DU PORTAIL, a French officer who served with distinction under Lafayette. During the Reign of Terror he escaped death by exile to America.

was later defended by an abattis and a triangular earth-work.

A redoubt on the east side of Mount Joy commanded the Valley road, and another behind the left flank of the abatis that which came from the river, while a star redoubt on a hill at the bank acted as a *tete-de-pont* for the bridge that was thrown across the Schuylkill. Behind the front and before the second line the troops were ordered to build huts for winterquarters. Fourteen feet by sixteen, of logs plastered with clay, these huts began to rise on every side. Placed in rows, each brigade by itself, they soon gave the camp the appearance of a little city. All day long the axe resounded among the hills, and the place was filled with the noise of hammering and the crash of falling trees. "I was there when the army first began to build huts," wrote Paine to Franklin. "They appeared to me like a family of beavers, every one busy: some carrying logs, others plastering them together. The whole was raised in a few days, and it is a curious collection of buildings in the true rustic order." The weather soon became intensely cold. The Schuylkill froze over and the roads were blocked with snow, but it was not until nearly the middle of January that the last hut was built and the army settled down into winter quarters on the bare hill-sides. Long before that its sufferings had begun.

The trials which have made this place so famous arose chiefly from the incapacity of Congress. It is true that

*TETE-DE-PONT*, head of the bridge.



REPRODUCTION OF LOG HUT

the country in the neighborhood of Philadelphia was wellnigh exhausted. An active campaign over a small extent of territory had drawn heavily on the resources of this part of Pennsylvania and the adjacent Jersey. Both forces had fed upon the country, and it was not so much disaffection (of which Washington wrote) as utter exhaustion, which made the farmers of the devastated region furnish so little to the army. Nor would it have been human nature in them to have preferred the badly printed, often counterfeited, depreciated promise to pay of the Americans for the gold which the British had to offer. In spite of the efforts of McLane's and Lee's Light-Horse and the activity of Lacey, of the militia, the few supplies that were left went steadily to Philadelphia, and the patriot army remained in want. But the more distant States, North and South, could easily have fed and clothed a much more numerous army. That they did not was the fault of Congress. That body no longer contained the men who had made it famous in the years gone by. Franklin was in Paris,

ALLAN McLANE joined the army under Washington in 1776; discovered weakness of Stony Point and promoted its capture; also discovered weakness of Paulus Hook and took part in its capture.

JOHN LACEY joined the army before he was twenty-three years old; head of a brigade of militia.

HENRY LEE, a member of the distinguished Lee family of Virginia. He attained distinction in the Revolutionary war as *major of a corps called "Lee's Legion,"* whence he derived his *epithet of "Light Horse Harry."*

where John Adams was about to join him. Jay, Jefferson, Rutledge, Livingston, and Henry were employed at home. Hancock had resigned. Samuel Adams was absent in New England. Men much their inferiors had taken their places.

The period, inevitable in the history of revolutions, had arrived when men of the second rank came to the front. With the early leaders in the struggle had disappeared the foresight, the breadth of view, the loftiness of purpose, and the self-sacrificing spirit belonging only to great minds which had marked and honored the commencement of the struggle. A smaller mind had begun to rule, a narrower view to influence, a personal feeling to animate the members. Driven from Philadelphia, they were in a measure disheartened, and their pride touched in a tender spot. Incapable of the loftier

JOHN ADAMS, second president of the United States. He was one of the five that drew up the Declaration of Independence. After a brief mission to France in 1778, he was again sent out, in 1779, as one of the commissioners to negotiate a treaty of peace with Great Britain.

JOHN JAY, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. In 1780 he became minister to Spain, and was soon associated with Adams and Franklin in negotiating peace. Jay's services in this treaty were conspicuous.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, the third president of the United States, was born in Virginia. He became active in the Revolutionary agitation, but his activity was as a writer, rather than a speaker. He is remembered for his draft of the Declaration of Independence. His political theories have had great influence upon the public life of America.

sentiments which had moved their predecessors, they could not overcome a sense of their own importance, and the desire to magnify their office. Petty rivalries had sprung up among them, and sectional feeling, smothered in '74, '75, and '76, had taken breath again, and asserted itself with renewed vigor in the recent debates on the confederation. But if divided among themselves by petty jealousies, they were united in a greater jealousy of Washington and the army. They cannot be wholly blamed for this. Taught by history no less than by their own experience of the dangers of standing armies in a free state, and wanting in modern history the single example which we have in Washington of a successful military chief retiring voluntarily into private life, they judged the leader of their forces by themselves and the ordinary rules of human nature. Their distrust was not unnatural nor wholly selfish, and must find some

EDWARD RUTLEDGE, who signed the Declaration of Independence, was a South Carolinian; he was a member of the committee that drew up the articles of Confederation; commanded a company of artillery at Charleston; at one time Governor of South Carolina.

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON was a delegate to the Continental Congress; served on committee that drafted Declaration of Independence; was secretary of foreign affairs from 1781-1783; was chancellor of state of New York, and in this position administered the oath of office to Washington in 1789.

PATRICK HENRY, noted for his famous arraignment of the Stamp Act. In 1775 occurred his "liberty or death" speech. *He was noted for his eloquence, but did not, in constructive statesmanship, compare with some of the other great Virginians.*

justification in the exceptional greatness of his character.

It was in vain that he called on them to dismiss their doubts and trust an army which had proved faithful. In vain he urged them to let their patriotism embrace, as his had learned to do, the whole country with an equal fervor. In vain he pointed out that want of organization in the army was due to want of union among them. They continued distrustful and unconvinced. In vain he asked for a single army, one and homogeneous. Congress insisted on thirteen distinct armies, each under the control of its particular State. The effect was disastrous. The *personnel* of the army was continually changing. Each State had its own rules, its own system of organization, its own plan of making enlistments. No two worked together,—the men's terms even expiring at the most delicate and critical times. Promotion was irregular and uncertain, and the sense of duty was impaired as that of responsibility grew less. Instead of an organized army, Washington commanded a disorganized mob. The extraordinary vir-

JOHN HANCOCK, of Massachusetts, was the first to sign the Declaration of Independence. He was President of the Continental Congress from 1775 to 1777. He was a man of strong and popular character.

SAMUEL ADAMS was one of the leaders of the Revolutionary patriots. His influence in shaping public sentiment for absolute independence of Great Britain was, doubtless, second to that of no one. He was one of the first to oppose taxation by *Parliament*. When General Gage offered pardon to the Americans, he *excepted* Samuel Adams and John Hancock.



tues of that great man might keep the men together, but there were some things which they could not do. Without an organized quartermaster's department the men could not be clothed or fed. At first mismanaged, this department became neglected. The warnings of Washington were disregarded, his appeals in vain. The troops began to want clothing soon after Brandywine. By November it was evident that they must keep the field without blankets, overcoats, or tents. At Whitemarsh they lay, half clad, on frozen ground. By the middle of December they were in want of the necessities of life.

#### THE SUFFERINGS OF THE SOLDIERS

"We are ordered to march over the river," writes Dr. Waldo, of Colonel Prentice's Connecticut Regiment, at Swedes' Ford, on December 12. "It snows—I'm sick—eat nothing—no whiskey—no baggage—Lord—Lord—Lord! Till sunrise crossing the river, cold and uncomfortable." "I'm sick," he goes on two days after, in his diary, "discontented, and out of humor. Poor

The situation of the camp was so eminently critical on the 14th of February that General Varnum wrote to General Greene that "in all human probability the army must dissolve." On the 16th of the same month Washington wrote to Governor Clinton, "For some days there has been little less than a famine in camp. A part of the army has been a week without any kind of flesh and the rest three or four days. Naked and starved as they are, *we cannot enough admire the incomparable patience and fidelity of the soldiery that they have not been ere this excited by their sufferings to general mutiny and desertion.*"

food—hard lodging—cold weather—fatigued—nasty clothes—nasty cookery—smoked out of my senses—I can't endure it. Here comes a bowl of soup, sickish enough to make a Hector ill. Away with it, boy—I'll live like the chameleon, on air." On the 19th of December they reached Valley Forge. By the 21st even such a bowl of soup had become a luxury. "A general cry," notes Waldo again, "through the camp this evening: 'No meat, no meat.' The distant vales echoed back the melancholy sound: 'No meat, no meat.'" It was literally true. On the next day Washington wrote to the President of Congress: "I do not know from what cause this alarming deficiency, or rather total failure of supplies, arises, but unless more vigorous exertions and better regulations take place in that line immediately this army must dissolve. I have done all in my power by remonstrating, by writing, by ordering the commissaries on this head from time to time, but without any good effect or obtaining more than a present scanty relief. Owing to this the march of the army has been delayed on more than one interesting occasion in the course of the present campaign; and had a body of the enemy crossed the Schuylkill this morning (as I had reason to expect from the intelligence I received at four o'clock last night), the divisions which I ordered to be in readiness to march and meet them could not have moved." Hardly was this written when the news did come that the enemy had come out to Darby, and the troops were ordered under arms. "*Fighting,*" responded General Huntington when he

got the order, "will be far preferable to starving. My brigade is out of provisions, nor can the commissary obtain any meat." "Three days successively," added Varnum, of Rhode Island, "we have been destitute of bread, two days we have been entirely without meat." It was impossible to stir. "And this," wrote Washington, in indignation, "brought forth the only commissary in camp, and with him this melancholy and alarming truth, that he had not a single hoof to slaughter and not more than twenty-five barrels of flour." "I am now convinced beyond a doubt that unless some great and capital change suddenly takes place in that line this army must inevitably be reduced to one or other of these three things,—starve, dissolve, or disperse in order to obtain subsistence."

But no change was destined to take place for many suffering weeks to come. The cold grew more and more intense, and provisions scarcer every day. Soon all were alike in want. "The colonels were often reduced to two rations, and sometimes even to one. The army frequently remained whole days without provisions," is the testimony of Lafayette. "We have lately been in an alarming state for want of provisions," says

JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON, a Harvard graduate; joined Continental army near Philadelphia in fall of 1777; was on the court martial that tried General Lee; was a member of the first board of foreign missions; died at New London, Connecticut, September 25, 1813.

JAMES M. VARNUM commanded a regiment at White Plains; *led the troops at Red Bank*; served under Lafayette; represented *Rhode Island in the Continental Congress*.

Colonel Laurens, on the 17th of February. "The army has been in great distress since you left," wrote Greene to Knox nine days afterwards; "the troops are getting naked. They were seven days without meat, and several days without bread. . . We are still in danger of starving. Hundreds of horses have already starved to death." The painful testimony is full and uncontradicted. "Several brigades," wrote Adjutant-General Scammel to Timothy Pickering, early in February, "have been without their allowance of meat. This is the third day." "In yesterday's conference with the General," said the committee of Congress sent to report, writing on the 12th of February, "he informed

JOHN LAURENS became an aide to Washington at the outbreak of the Revolution. He fought at Brandywine, Monmouth, Germantown, Charleston, and Savannah. He also fought at Yorktown, and while serving under Greene, was killed in a skirmish.

TIMOTHY PICKERING, of Massachusetts, was made attorney-general of the army in 1776 and member of the board of war, and in 1780 became quartermaster-general, materially aiding Washington's final movements. In 1791 he negotiated treaty with the Six Nations. In 1795 he became secretary of war, and a few months later took charge of the State Department. He was a radical Federalist, and his vigorous opposition to the Embargo made him at one time extremely unpopular.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL ALEXANDER SCAMMEL was born in Massachusetts in 1747. In 1775 he was studying law with General Sullivan, when he left his law books and joined the army at Cambridge as Sullivan's brigade-major. He was with him in the battles of Long Island, Trenton, and Princeton, and was especially distinguished at Saratoga. From 1778 to 1781 he was adjutant-general of the army. He was mortally wounded at Yorktown.

us that some brigades had been four days without meat, and that even the common soldiers had been at his quarters to make known their wants. Should the enemy attack the camp successfully, your artillery would undoubtedly fall into their hands for want of horses to remove it. But these are smaller and tolerable evils when compared with the imminent danger of your troops perishing with famine or dispersing in search of food." "For some days past there has been little less than a famine in the camp," writes Washington to Clinton; "a part of the army has been a week without any kind of flesh, and the rest three or four days."

Famished for want of food, they were no better off for clothes. The unfortunate soldiers were in want of everything. "They had neither coats, hats, shirts,

ALEXANDER HAMILTON was one of the most efficient statesmen and founders of the Republic. As a leader of the Federalist party, and with a firm conviction in a strong government, he made use of his opportunity as Secretary of the Treasury to place the finances of the young nation on a firm basis. To him, more than to any other, is due the stability of the government, its honorable dealings with its creditors, and the business-like methods of conducting its finances. In 1774, while the Revolutionary fever was at its height, he made a speech in behalf of the colonists which was marvelous for a lad of seventeen. He followed this up by a vigorous war of pamphlets. When hostilities began, he organized a cavalry company, and so distinguished himself at White Plains that Washington made him an aide-de-camp on his staff. After the surrender at Yorktown he studied law and rose to eminence at the New York bar. He was a member of the Federal Conven-

nor shoes," wrote the Marquis de Lafayette. "The men," said Baron Steuben, "were literally naked, some of them in the fullest extent of the word." "'Tis a melancholy consideration," were the words of Pickering, "that hundreds of our men are unfit for duty only for want of clothes and shoes." Hear Washington himself on the 23d of December: "We have (besides a number of men confined to hospitals for want of shoes, and others in farm-houses on the same account), by a field return, this day made, no less than two thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight men now in camp unfit for duty, because they are barefoot and

tion in 1787, and his great work lay in his efforts to persuade the American people to adopt the Federal Constitution. As First Secretary of the Treasury, he held congress firmly to the duty of paying every dollar of the national debt at its face value. He also prevailed upon Congress to assume the debts incurred by the States in carrying on the war, and thus he established the credit of the nation. He was killed in a duel with Aaron Burr, then vice-president, and died July 12, 1804. (See page 65.)

BARON STEUBEN, the disciplinarian of the American Revolutionary army, was born at Magdeburg. He had fought in the War of the Austrian Succession and also through the Seven Years' War. He became an aide-de-camp to Frederick the Great. Congress appointed him inspector-general, and his services in drilling the troops were invaluable. He commanded the left wing at the battle of Monmouth, and took part in the siege of Yorktown. He was a member of the board that decided the fate of Andre. He identified himself even more than Lafayette with the country to which he had given his aid, settling in New York, and receiving from Congress in his last years a grant of land near Utica, New York.



REPRODUCTION OF AN ARMY HOSPITAL

otherwise naked. Our numbers since the 4th instant, from the hardships and exposures they have undergone (many having been obliged for want of blankets to sit up all night by fires instead of taking rest in a natural and common way), have decreased two thousand men." By the 1st of February that number had grown to four thousand, and there were fit for duty but five thousand and twelve, or one-half the men in camp. "So," in the words of the Hebrew prophet, "they labored in the work, and half of them held the spears from the rising of the morning till the stars appeared."

Naked and starving in an unusually rigorous winter, they fell sick by hundreds. "From want of clothes "their feet and legs froze till they became black, and it was often necessary to amputate them." Through a want of straw or materials to raise them from the wet earth (I quote again from the committee of Congress) "sickness and mortality have spread through their quarters to an astonishing degree. The small-pox has broken out. Notwithstanding the diligence of the physicians and surgeons, of whom we hear no complaint, the sick and dead list has increased one-third in the last week's return, which was one-third greater than the week preceding, and from the present inclement weather will probably increase in a much greater proportion." Well might Washington exclaim: "Our sick naked and well naked, our unfortunate men in captivity naked! Our difficulties and distresses are certainly great, and such as wound the feelings of humanity." Nor was this all. What many had



to endure beside, let Dr. Waldo tell: "When the officer has been fatiguing through wet and cold, and returns to his tent to find a letter from his wife filled with the most heart-aching complaints a woman is capable of writing, acquainting him with the incredible difficulty with which she procures a little bread for herself and children; that her money is of very little consequence to her,—concluding with expressions bordering on despair of getting sufficient food to keep soul and body together through the winter, and begging him to consider that charity begins at home, and not suffer his family to perish with want in the midst of plenty,—what man is there whose soul would not shrink within him? Who would not be disheartened from persevering in the best of causes—the cause of his country—when such discouragements as these lie in his way which his country might remedy if it would?"

Listen to his description of the common soldier: "See the poor soldier when in health. With what cheerfulness he meets his foes and encounters every hardship. If barefoot, he labors thro' the mud and cold with a song in his mouth, extolling war and Washington. If his food be bad he eats it notwithstanding with seeming content, blesses God for a good stomach, and whistles

DR. ALBIGENCE WALDO was born at Pomfret, Connecticut, February 27, 1750. At outbreak of Revolutionary War he was made a surgeon's mate in the army, but on account of feeble *health was soon discharged.* He won distinction at Valley Forge *through his services in inoculating the troops against small-pox.* *He died January 29, 1794.*

it into digestion. But harkee! Patience a moment! There comes a soldier, and cries with an air of wretchedness and despair, 'I'm sick; my feet lame; my legs are sore; my body covered with this tormenting itch; my clothes are worn out; my constitution is broken; my former activity is exhausted by fatigue, hunger, and cold; I fail fast; I shall soon be no more! And all the reward I shall get will be, 'Poor Will is dead!'" And in the midst of this they persevered! Freezing, starving, dying, rather than desert their flag they saw their loved ones suffer, but kept the faith. And the American yeoman of the Revolution remaining faithful through that winter is as splendid an example of devotion to duty as that which the pitying ashes of Vesuvius have preserved through eighteen centuries in the figure of the Roman soldier standing at his post, unmoved amid all the horrors of Pompeii. "The Guard die, but never surrender," was the phrase invented for Cambronne. "My comrades freeze and starve, but they never forsake me," might be put into the mouth of Washington.

A thousand years after an eruption of Vesuvius had buried Pompeii beneath its burning lava explorers laid bare the ruins of the ill-fated city. There the unfortunate inhabitants were found, just as they were overtaken by the stream of fire. The Roman sentinel was found standing at his post, his skeleton hand still grasping the hilt of his sword, his attitude that of a faithful officer.

COUNT PIERRE JACQUES ETIENNE CAMBRONNE, a celebrated French general who accompanied Napoleon to Elba. He is the reputed author of the expression, "The guard dies, but never surrenders," incorrectly said to have been used by him at Waterloo when asked to surrender.

"Naked and starving as they are," writes one of their officers, "we cannot sufficiently admire the incomparable patience and fidelity of the soldiery that they have not been ere this excited by their sufferings to a general mutiny and desertion." "Nothing can equal their sufferings," says the committee, "except the patience and fortitude with which they bear them." Greene's account to Knox is touching: "Such patience and moderation as they manifested under their sufferings does the highest honor to the magnanimity of the American soldiers. The seventh day they came before their superior officers and told their sufferings as if they had been humble petitioners for special favors.

HENRY KNOX gave up his trade as a bookseller and became an artillery officer; fought at Bunker Hill; was made brigadier-general of artillery; and fought with distinction at Trenton, Brandywine, Monmouth, and Yorktown. Washington appointed him as Secretary of War in his first cabinet.

NATHANAEL GREENE, a native of Rhode Island, was a farmer and blacksmith. He educated himself while working at the forge. He studied Euclid, Cæsar's Commentaries, Marshal Turenne's works, Sharp's Military Guide, Blackstone's Commentaries, etc. He was commissioned brigadier-general in 1775. He fought at Trenton, Princeton, and saved the army from defeat at Brandywine by a rapid march and skilful management. He presided at the trial of Major Andre. He succeeded Gates in command of the southern forces. His celebrated retreat from South Carolina across North Carolina into Virginia won for him a high rank in the estimation of military men. Congress presented him with two pieces of ordnance taken from the British as a public testimony of his skill in managing the southern *department*. By his skill in military movements he proved *himself one of the most brilliant generals of that time*.



**EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR OF OLD SCHOOL-HOUSE ON VALLEY  
FORGE CAMP GROUND**

Built by Letitia Aubrey, daughter of William Penn, in 1705.  
Restored by Valley Forge Park Commission in 1907.  
Used as a hospital in winter of 1777-1778.

They added that it would be impossible to continue in camp any longer without support." In March, Thomas Wharton writes in the name of Pennsylvania: "The unparalleled patience and magnanimity with which the army under your Excellency's command have endured the hardships attending their situation, unsupplied as they have been through an uncommonly severe winter, is an honor which posterity will consider as more illustrious than could have been derived to them by a victory obtained by any sudden and vigorous exertion." "I would cherish these dear, ragged Continentals, whose patience will be the admiration of future ages, and glory in bleeding with them," cried John Laurens in the enthusiasm of youth. "The patience and endurance of both soldiers and officers was a miracle which each moment served to renew," said Lafayette in his old age. But the noblest tribute comes from the pen of him who knew them best: "Without arrogance or the smallest deviation from truth, it may be said that no history now extant can furnish an instance of an army's suffering such uncommon hardships as ours has done, and bearing them with the same patience and fortitude. To see men without clothes to cover their nakedness, without blankets to lie on, without shoes (for the want of which their marches

THOMAS WHARTON was a zealous opponent of the oppressive measures of England toward the colonies. He was chosen a member of the Philadelphia Committee of Safety, and became *president one year later*. He was president of Pennsylvania from *1777 to 1778*.

might be traced by the blood from their feet), and almost as often without provisions as with them, marching through the frost and snow, and at Christmas taking up their winter-quarters within a day's march of the enemy without a house or a hut to cover them till they could be built, and submitting without a murmur, is a proof of patience and obedience which in my opinion can scarce be paralleled." Such was Washington's opinion of the soldiers of Valley Forge.

#### HOLY GROUND

Americans, who have gathered on the broad bosom of these hills to-day, if heroic deeds can consecrate a spot of earth, if the living be still sensible of the example of the dead, if courage be yet a common virtue and patience in suffering be still honorable in your sight, if freedom be any longer precious and faith in humanity be not banished from among you, if love of country still

What was Washington's opinion of his soldiers? Compare the condition of the American soldiers at Valley Forge with the British soldiers in Philadelphia.

Compare the present condition of our country with what it was at the time when Washington's army encamped at Valley Forge.

How does this Christmas compare with the Christmas celebration at Trenton?

Name the heroic deeds that consecrated Valley Forge.

What is the meaning of the expression, "If the living be still sensible of the example of the dead"?

Is patriotism a virtue? In what does love of country consist? Distinguish between partisanship and patriotism. What is heroism? In what respect were the soldiers at Valley Forge heroes? What are the lessons of this place?

find a refuge among the hearts of men, "take your shoes from off your feet, for the place on which you stand is holy ground."

#### THE TROOPS AND THEIR LEADERS

And who are the leaders of the men whose heroism can sanctify a place like this? Descend the hill and wander through the camp. The weather is intensely cold and the smoke hangs above the huts. On the plain behind the front line a few general officers are grouped about a squad whom the new inspector, the German Baron, is teaching some manoeuvre. Bodies of men here and there are dragging wagons up-hill (for the horses have starved to death) or carrying fuel for fires, without which the troops would freeze. The huts are deserted save by the sick or naked, and as you pass along the street a poor fellow peeps out at the door of one and cries, "No bread, no soldier!"

These are the huts of Huntington's brigade, of the Connecticut line; next to it those of Pennsylvanians under Conway. This is the Irish-Frenchman soon to disappear in a disgraceful intrigue. Here in camp there are many who whisper that he is a mere adventurer, but in Congress they still think him "a great military character." Down towards headquarters are the

THOMAS CONWAY came to the United States in 1777 and was *made a brigadier-general*. He was leader of the conspiracy *against Washington* known as the "Conway Cabal," on account of which he was wounded in a duel with General John Cadwalader.

Southerners, commanded by Lachlan McIntosh, in his youth "the handsomest man in Georgia." Beyond Conway, on the hill, is Maxwell, a gallant Irishman, commissioned by New Jersey. Woodford, of Virginia, commands on the right of the second line, and in front of him the Virginian Scott. The next brigade in order are Pennsylvanians,—many of them men whose homes are in this neighborhood,—Chester County boys and Quakers from the Valley turned soldier for their country's sake. They are the children of three races: the hot

LACHLAN MCINTOSH was born near Inverness, Scotland, in 1727; emigrated to Georgia; rose to the rank of brigadier-general in the Continental army.

WILLIAM MAXWELL of New Jersey was made colonel of Second New Jersey regiment in 1775; appointed brigadier-general in 1776; fought in battles of Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth; participated in Sullivan's campaigns in 1779; died November 12, 1798.

WILLIAM WOODFORD, of Virginia, was born in 1735. In 1775 was appointed colonel Second Virginia regiment, and afterward became head of First Virginia Brigade; wounded at battle of Brandywine; died November 13, 1780.

The VIRGINIAN SCOTT (Charles Scott) was born in Virginia in 1733; was made a corporal of a Virginia company in the battle of Monongahela when Bradford was defeated in 1755. When the Revolution broke out, he raised the first organized regiment south of the James River for the Continental service. On August 12, 1776, he was appointed colonel, and was distinguished at Trenton and Princeton; just a year later was promoted to brigadier-general. He was the last officer to leave the field at Monmouth in 1778; took a prominent part in the storming of Stony Point, and the next year was with Lincoln at Charleston, when he was made a prisoner; moved to Kentucky, and was



Irish blood mixes with the colder Dutch in their calm English veins, and some of them—their chief, for instance—are splendid fighters. There he is at this moment riding up the hill from his quarters in the valley. A man of medium height and strong frame, he sits his horse well and with a dashing air. His nose is prominent, his eye piercing, his complexion ruddy, his whole appearance that of a man in splendid health and flowing spirits. He is just the fellow to win by his headlong valor the nickname of “The Mad.” But he is more than a mere fighter. Skilful, energetic, full of resources and presence of mind, quick to comprehend and prompt to act, of sound judgment and extraordinary courage, he has in him the qualities of a great general, as he shall show many a time in his short life of one-and-fifty years. Pennsylvania, after her quiet fashion, may not make as much of his fame as it deserves, but impartial history will allow her none the less the honor of having given its most brilliant soldier to the Revolution in her Anthony Wayne. Poor, of New Hampshire, is encamped next, and then Glover, whose regiment of

elected Governor in 1808. His education was limited; was blunt in manners and decidedly eccentric.

ANTHONY WAYNE: For biographical sketch, see page 23.

ENOCH POOR, of New Hampshire, accompanied Schuyler's expedition to Canada in 1776; led the attack at Saratoga; served under Lafayette at Monmouth, and led a brigade against the Six Nations in 1779; in 1780 was placed in command of two brigades; was killed in a duel with a French officer near Hackensack, *New Jersey*, September 8, 1780.

JOHN GLOVER was born in Salem, Massachusetts, November



WAYNE MONUMENT AT VALLEY FORGE.

Marblehead sailors and fishermen manned the boats that saved the army on the night of the retreat from Long Island. Learned, Paterson, and Weedon follow, and then at the corner of the intrenchments by the river is the Virginian brigade of Muhlenberg. Born at the Trappe, close by, and educated abroad, Muhlenberg was a clergyman in Virginia when the war came on, but he has doffed his parson's gown forever for the

5, 1732. At the beginning of the Revolution he raised 1000 men at Marblehead, and joined the army at Cambridge. His regiment, being composed of fishermen, was called the "Amphibious Regiment," and in retreat from Long Island manned the boats. It also manned the boats at the crossing of the Delaware. He was made a brigadier-general in 1777, and joined the northern army under General Schuyler. He led Burgoyne's captives to Cambridge. Died June 30, 1797.

JOHN PATERSON was an active patriot in Massachusetts at the outbreak of the Revolution; member of Provincial Congress; after the affair at Lexington went with a regiment of militia to Cambridge; in battles of Trenton, Princeton, and Monmouth; remained in service to close of war; member of Congress 1803-1805; died in Lisle, New York, July, 19, 1808.

GEORGE WEEDON, born at Fredericksburg, Virginia, 1730, was a tavern keeper before the Revolution; had a brigade in battle of Brandywine and Germantown; dissatisfied with his rank and resigned service at Valley Forge; resumed his command in 1780; was in siege of Yorktown; died in 1790. His orderly book at Valley Forge has been published.

JOHN PETER GABRIEL MUHLENBERG, born at Trappe, Pa., October 1, 1746; died near Philadelphia October 1, 1807. At the outbreak of the Revolution he was pastor of a church at Woodstock, Virginia. He enlisted as a colonel in 1775. He won distinction at Brandywine, Monmouth, Stony Point, and Yorktown.

buff and blue of a brigadier. His stalwart form and swarthy face are already as familiar to the enemy as they are to his own men, for the Hessians are said to have cried, "Hier kommt teufel Pete!" as they saw him lead a charge at Brandywine. The last brigade is stationed on the river-bank, where Varnum and his Rhode Islanders, in sympathy with young Laurens, of Carolina, are busy with a scheme to raise and enlist regiments of negro troops. These are the commanders of brigades. The major-generals are seven,—portly William Alexander, of New Jersey, who claims to be the Earl of Stirling, but can fight for a republic bravely nevertheless; swarthy John Sullivan, of New Hampshire, a little headstrong but brave as a lion; Steuben, the Prussian martinet, who has just come to teach the

Name the brigade commanders. The major-generals.

"Hier kommt teufel Pete!"—Here comes devil Pete.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER, of New York, called Lord Stirling, was born in New York City. In 1757, he laid claim before the House of Lords to the earldom of Stirling, but in vain. In 1775 he became a colonel in the Revolutionary army, a brigadier-general in 1776, and a major-general in 1777. He distinguished himself at Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth.

JOHN SULLIVAN, of New Hampshire, was a delegate to the First Continental Congress; was appointed a brigadier-general in 1775; a major-general in 1776. He led the right wing at Brandywine and Germantown.

MARTINET, said to be so called from General Martinet, who regulated the French infantry in the reign of Louis XIV; it has come to mean a rigid disciplinarian, especially in the army or navy.

army; De Kalb,—self-sacrificing and generous De Kalb, —whose honest breast shall soon bear eleven mortal wounds received in the service of America; Lafayette, tall, with auburn hair,—the French boy of twenty with an old man's head,—just recovering from the wounds of Brandywine; and last and greatest of them all, Nathanael Greene, the Quaker blacksmith from Rhode Island, in all great qualities second only to the Chief himself. Yonder is Henry Knox, of the artillery; as brave and faithful as he is big and burly, and the Pole, Pulaski, a man “of hardly middle stature, of sharp countenance and lively air.” Here are the Frenchmen, Duportail, Dubuysson, Duplessis, and Duponceau. Here are Timothy Pickering and Light-Horse Harry Lee, destined to be famous in Senate, Cabinet, and field. Here are Henry Dearborn and William Hull,

BARON JOHANN DEKALB was born in Bavaria in 1721, and died near Camden, South Carolina, 1780. He entered the French service in 1743 and the American service in 1777, and was mortally wounded at Camden, 1780. He was a peasant by birth.

NATHANAEL GREENE and HENRY KNOX: For sketches, see p. 52.

KAZIMIERZ PULASKI was outlawed for leading the insurgents in Poland, and came to America in 1777. He was placed on Washington's staff, and rendered valuable assistance at Brandywine and Germantown. He was given command of a body of foreigners, deserters, and prisoners of war which became famous as “Pulaski's Legion.” At Savannah he was mortally wounded.

DUPORTAIL, DUBUYSSON,<sup>1</sup>DUPLESSIS, and DUPONCEAU, Frenchmen who came to America and espoused the cause of the colonies.

HENRY DEARBORN, captain at Bunker Hill; distinguished *himself at the battles of Stillwater, Saratoga, and Monmouth.* *He was Secretary of War in Jefferson's cabinet.*

whose paths in life shall one day cross again, and John Laurens and Tench Tilghman, those models of accomplished manhood, destined so soon to die!

Does that silent boy of twenty, who has just ridden by with a message from Lord Stirling, imagine that one day the doctrine which shall keep the American continent free from the touch of European politics shall be forever associated with the name of James Monroe? Does yonder tall, awkward youth, in the Third Virginia,

WILLIAM HULL, for distinguished service, attained the rank of major. In 1812 he was placed in command of the army of the Northwest, with headquarters at Detroit. He surrendered Detroit to the British and was sentenced to death for this act, but was reprieved by Madison.

TENCH TILGHMAN, born in Baltimore, 1744; in 1776 became an aide to Washington; also became his confidential secretary until the close of the war. He served without pay for five years, and was in every action in which the main army was concerned; sent by Washington to announce to Congress the surrender of Cornwallis; was highly commended to Congress as worthy of great consideration. He died April 18, 1786.

JAMES MONROE, the fifth president of the United States, at the outbreak of the Revolution left William and Mary College and entered the Revolutionary army at the early age of eighteen. He distinguished himself in several battles. He was minister to France and England and was Secretary of State under Madison. As minister, his most important work was the negotiation with R. R. Livingston for the purchase of the province of Louisiana. President Monroe sent a message to Congress in which he announced what has always since been known as "The Monroe Doctrine." In substance this doctrine was a declaration of independence for the whole of America.

who bore a musket so gallantly at Brandywine, dream, as he lies there shivering in his little hut on the slopes of Mount Joy, that in the not distant future it is he that shall build up the jurisprudence of a people, and after a life of usefulness and honor bequeath to them, in the fame of John Marshall, the precious example of a great and upright Judge? Two other youths are here,—both of small stature and lithe, active frame,—of the same rank and almost the same age, whose ambitious eyes alike look forward already to fame and power in law and politics. But not even his own aspiring spirit can foretell the splendid rise, the dizzy elevation, and the sudden fall of Aaron Burr—nor can the other

JOHN MARSHALL, the great American Jurist, was born in Germantown, Virginia. He spent five years in the Revolutionary army. After the war he applied himself to the study of law and rose rapidly in his profession. In 1801 President Adams appointed him Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, which position he held till his death. Six men occupied the presidential chair, and eighteen congresses met during his term as Chief Justice.

AARON BURR, the grandson of Jonathan Edwards, joined the army at the outbreak of the Revolution, and served in Arnold's famous expedition through Maine to Canada, and afterward rose to the rank of colonel. He was one of the leading lawyers at the New York bar. In the presidential contest of 1800-01 Colonel Burr and Thomas Jefferson each received 73 electoral votes, and the House of Representatives chose Jefferson for president and Burr for vice-president. A bitter political controversy between Burr and Hamilton led to a duel between the two at Weehawken, July 11, 1804, in which Hamilton was mortally wounded. He spent many years in exile, and when he returned to America, he was shunned by his neighbors.

foresee that the time will never come when his countrymen will cease to admire the genius and lament the fate of Alexander Hamilton!

#### WASHINGTON AT VALLEY FORGE

And what shall I say of him who bears on his heart the weight of all? Who can measure the anxieties that afflict his mind? Who weigh the burdens that he has to bear? Who but himself can ever know the responsibilities that rest upon his soul? Behold him in yonder cottage, his lamp burning steadily through half the winter night, his brain never at rest, his hand always busy, his pen ever at work; now counselling with Greene how to clothe and feed the troops, or with Steuben how to reorganize the service; now writing to Howe about exchanges, or to Livingston about the relief of prisoners, or to Clinton about supplies, or to Congress about enlistments or promotions or finances or the French Alliance; opposing foolish and rash councils to-day, urging prompt and rigorous policies to-morrow; now calming the jealousy of Congress, now soothing the wounded pride of ill-used officers; now answering the

ALEXANDER HAMILTON: For biographical sketch, see page 46.

Enumerate some of the many arduous duties of Washington. Name officers of the Revolutionary army that were ill used by Congress. How did one of the officers show his resentment for his ill treatment? What complaints did the civil authorities have to make? Name some of the intrigues of Congress, in camp. How did Washington bear criticism? calumny? Characterize Washington as a general and as a statesman.



complaints of the civil authority, and now those of the starving soldiers, whose sufferings he shares, and by his cheerful courage keeping up the hearts of both; repressing the zeal of friends to-day, and overcoming with steadfast rectitude the intrigues of enemies in Congress and in camp to-morrow; bearing criticism with patience and calumny with fortitude, and, lest his country should suffer, answering both only with plans for her defence of which others are to reap the glory; guarding the long coast with ceaseless vigilance, and watching with sleepless eye a chance to strike the enemy in front a blow; a soldier subordinating the military to the civil power; a dictator as mindful of the rights of Tories as of the wrongs of Whigs; a statesman, commanding a Revolutionary army; a patriot, forgetful of nothing but himself; this is he whose extraordinary virtues only have kept the army from disbanding and saved his country's cause. Modest in the midst of pride, wise in the midst of folly, calm in the midst of passion, cheerful in the midst of gloom, steadfast among the wavering, hopeful among the despondent, bold among the timid, prudent among the rash, generous among the

Intrigues in camp: The Conway Cabal was an intrigue by Gates, Lee, Mifflin, Wilkinson, and others of Washington's officers in 1777 for the promotion of brigadier-general Conway contrary to Washington's judgment. Washington was accused of incompetence and partiality, and finally Congress was prevailed upon to promote Conway to major-general and inspector-general. *In 1778 Conway was wounded in a duel. He afterward apologized to Washington, confessing his wrong.*

selfish, true among the faithless, greatest among good men and best among the great,—such was George Washington at Valley Forge.

But the darkest hour of night is just before the day. In the middle of February Washington described the dreadful situation of the army and “the miserable prospects before it” as “more alarming” than can possibly be conceived, and as occasioning him more distress “than he had felt” since the commencement of the war. On the 23d of February he whom we call Baron Steuben rode into camp; on the 6th, Franklin signed the Treaty of Alliance at Versailles.

#### STEUBEN AND FRANKLIN

Frederick William Augustus, Baron Von Steuben, was a native of Magdeburg, in Prussia. Trained from early life to arms, he had been Aide to the Great Frederick, Lieutenant-General to the Prince of Baden, Grand Marshal at the Court of one of the Hohenzollerns, and a Canon of the Church. A skilful soldier, a thorough disciplinarian, a gentleman of polished manners, a man of warm and generous heart, he had come in the prime of life and vigor to offer his services to the American people. None could have been more needed or more valuable at the time. Congress sent him to the camp,

Characterize Washington as a man, showing the many qualities that go to make up his character.

In your own language, write a sketch of George Washington at Valley Forge.



CONTINENTAL ARMY CANNON

Washington quickly discerned his worth, and in a little time he was made Major-General and Inspector of the army. In an instant there was a change in that department. A discipline unknown before took possession of the camp. Beginning with a picked company of one hundred and twenty men, the Baron drilled them carefully himself on foot and musket in hand. These when they became proficient he made a model for others, and presently the whole camp had become a military school. Rising at three in the morning, he smoked a single pipe while his servant dressed his hair, drank one cup of coffee, and with his star of knighthood gleaming on his breast was on horseback at sunrise, and with or without his suite galloped to the parade. There all day he drilled the men, and at nightfall galloped back to the hut in which he had made his quarters, to draw up regulations and draft instructions for the inspectors under him. And thus day after day, patient, careful, laborious, and persevering, in a few months he transformed this untrained yeomanry into a disciplined and effective army. There have been more brilliant services rendered to America than these, but few perhaps more valuable and worthier of remembrance. Knight of the Order of Fidelity, there have been more illustrious names than thine upon our lips to-day. Like many another who labored for us, our busy age has seemed to pass thee by. But here, at last, when after a century, Americans gather to review their country's history, *shall they recall thy unselfish services with gratitude, and thy memory with honor!*

And surely at Valley Forge we must not forget what Franklin is doing for his country's cause in France. It was a happy thing for the Republican Idea that it had a distant continent for the place of its experiment. It was a fortunate thing for America that between her and her nearest European neighbor lay a thousand leagues of sea. That distance—a very different matter from what it is to-day—made it at the same time difficult for England to overcome us, and safe for France to lend us aid. From an early period this alliance seemed to have been considered by the Cabinet of France. For several years secret negotiations had been going on, and in the fall of 1777 they became open and distinct, and the representatives of both nations came face to face. There was no sympathy between weak and feeble Louis and his crafty Ministers on the one side and the representatives of Democracy and Rebellion on the other, —nor had France any hopes of regaining her foothold on this continent. The desire of her rulers was

Louis XVI succeeded to the throne in 1774. He gave the American Colonies considerable aid during the Revolutionary war, and burdened France with a big debt in their behalf.

“It was in this particular juncture of affairs and condition of opinion and policy that the genius of Dr. Franklin shone with peculiar lustre. At the gay court of Louis XVI he appeared as the representative of his country. His gigantic intellect, his reputation in science, and his personal manners soon won for him at the French capital an immense reputation. His wit and genial *humor made him admired*; his humanity and courteous bearing *commanded universal respect*; his patience and perseverance gave

simply to humiliate and injure England, and the revolution in America seemed to offer the chance. Doubtless they were influenced by the fact that the cause of America had become very popular with all classes of the French people, impressed to a remarkable degree with the character of Dr. Franklin, and stirred by the contagious and generous example of Lafayette. Nor was this popular feeling merely temporary or without foundation. Long familiar as he had been with despotism in both politics and religion, the Frenchman still retained within him a certain spirit of Liberty which was stronger than he knew. His sympathies naturally went out toward a distant people engaged in a gallant struggle against his hereditary enemies,—the English; but besides all that, there was in his heart something, he hardly knew what, that vibrated at the thought of a freedom for others which he had hardly dreamed of and never known. Little did he or any of his rulers foresee what that something was. Little did France

him final success. He became at length the idol of the French people. During the whole of 1777 he remained at Paris and Versailles, leaving nothing undone that might conduce to the cause of his country. At last came the news of Burgoyne's surrender. A powerful British army had been conquered and captured without aid from abroad. This marked success of the American arms afforded the excuse for which the French king had been waiting. One-third of the British forces in America had either been killed or captured, and France hesitated no longer to recognize our independence. The treaty was signed February 6, 1778. The event was of vast moment, as it presaged the final success of the American cause."

imagine, as she blew into a flame the spark of Liberty beyond the sea, that there was that within her own dominions which in eleven years, catching the divine fire from the glowing West, would set herself and Europe in a blaze. Accordingly, after much doubt, delay, and intrigue, during which Franklin bore himself with rare ability and tact, treaties of amity, commerce, and alliance were prepared and signed. The Independence of America was acknowledged and made the basis of alliance, and it was mutually agreed that neither nation should lay down its arms until England had conceded it. A fleet, an army, and munitions were promised by the

The French Revolution began with the meeting of the States General in May, 1789, and continued until 1799. At first Americans were favorable to it, as to a natural consequence of the American Revolution, and a movement in favor of humanity, liberty, and progress. But the execution of the king and the ensuing Reign of Terror turned the feeling against it. It was one of the main questions upon which our first political parties were divided, the Federalists opposing it, the Republicans favoring it. Because Washington's administration assumed a neutral position, it was attacked with great vigor.

Within forty-eight hours after signing the alliance between France and America, British spies carried the portentous news to their sovereign, whose ministers at once sought, by well-marked measures of conciliation, to paralyze the inevitable result contemplated by the alliance. As an inducement Great Britain offered to give everything that she had refused three years before, including freedom from taxation, and according representation in parliament; but the offer was too late. The Americans were *firmly resolved on independence* and snubbed the English commissioners sent to this country.

King, and, as a consequence, war was at once declared against Great Britain.

#### THE DAWN AT LAST

We are accustomed to regard this as the turning-point in the Revolutionary struggle. And so it was. But neither the fleet of France nor her armies, gallant as they were, nor the supplies and means with which she furnished us, were as valuable to the cause of the struggling country as the moral effect, at home as well as abroad, of the alliance. Hopes that were built upon the skill of French sailors were soon dispelled, the expectations of large contingent armies were not to be fulfilled, but the news of the French alliance carried into every patriotic heart an assurance that never left it afterward, and kept aroused a spirit that henceforward grew stronger every year. Says the historian Bancroft: "The benefit then conferred on the United States was priceless. And so the flags of France and the United States went together into the field against Great Britain unsupported by any other government, yet with the good wishes of all the peoples of Europe." And thus illustrious Franklin, the Philadelphia printer, earned the magnificent compliment that was paid him in the French Academy: "*Eripuit fulmen cœlo, sceptrumque tyrannis.*"

Why was this the turning-point in the Revolutionary struggle? What was the effect of the French alliance?

*Eripuit fulmen cœlo, sceptrumque tyrannis*—He wrested the thunder from the sky and the scepter from tyrants.



And all the while, unconscious of the event, the winter days at Valley Forge dragged by, one after another, with sleet and slush and snow, with storms of wind, and ice and beating rain. The light-horse scoured the country, the pickets watched, the sentinels paced up and down, the men drilled and practised and starved and froze and suffered, and at last the spring-time came, and with it stirring news. Greene was appointed Quarter-master-General on the 23d of March, and under his skilful management relief and succor came. The Conciliatory Bills, offering all but independence, were received in April, and instantly rejected by Congress, under the stirring influence of a letter from Washington, declaring with earnestness that "nothing short of independence would do," and at last, on the 4th of May, at eleven o'clock at night, the news of the French treaty reached the headquarters.

On the 6th, by general orders, the army, after appropriate religious services, was drawn up under arms, salutes were fired with cannon and musketry, cheers given by the soldiers for the King of France and the American States, and a banquet by the General-in-Chief to all the officers in the open air completed a day devoted to rejoicing. "And all the while," says

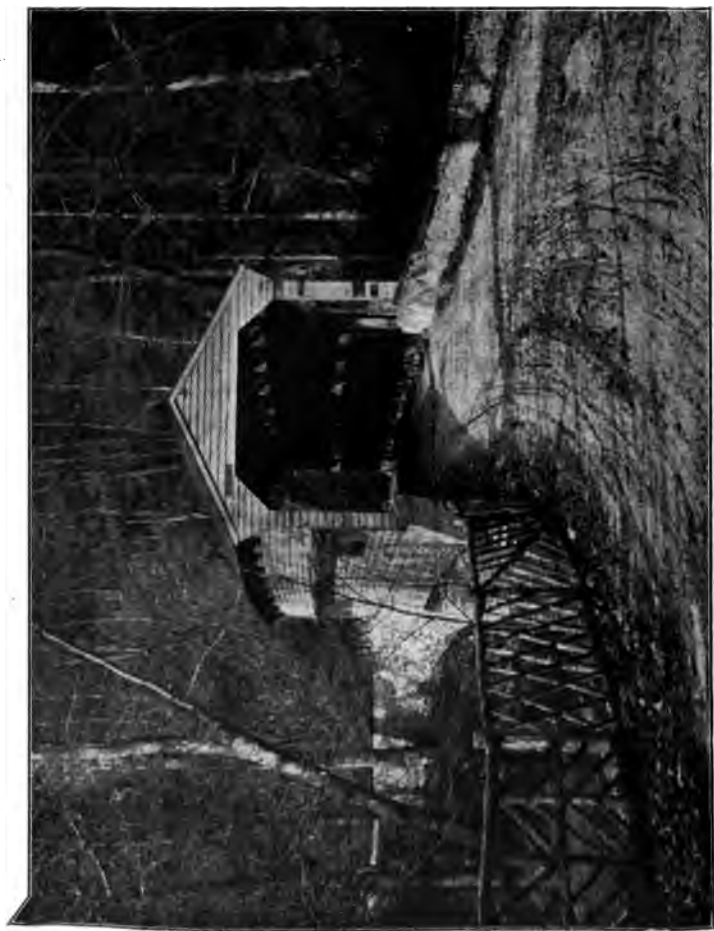
"On the 7th of May, 1778, at 9 o'clock A. M., the American Army was on parade. Drums beat and cannon were fired, as if for some victory. It was a day of jubilee, a rare occurrence for the time and place. The brigades were steady, but not brilliant *in their formation*. Uniforms were scarce. Many feet were bare. *Many had no coats*. Some wore coats made of the remnants of

the English satirist, "Howe left the famous camp of Valley Forge untouched, whilst his great, brave, and perfectly appointed army fiddled and gambled and feasted in Philadelphia. And by Byng's countrymen triumphal arches were erected, tournaments were held in pleasant mockery of the Middle Ages, and wreaths and garlands offered by beautiful ladies to this clement chief, with fantastical mottoes and poesies announcing that his laurels should be immortal." On the 18th of May (the day of that famous festivity) Lafayette took post at Barren Hill, from which he escaped so brilliantly two days afterwards. At last, on the 18th of June, George Roberts, of Philadelphia, came gallop-

their winter blankets. The pomp and circumstances of war was wanting. There was no review by general officers, with a well-appointed staff. Few matrons and few maidens looked on. There stood before each brigade its chaplain, God's ambassador was made the voice to explain this occasion of expenditure of greatly needed powder. The Treaty of Alliance was read and in solemn silence the American Army at Valley Forge united in thanksgiving to Almighty God that He had given them one friend on earth. One theme was universal, and it flutters yet in the breasts of millions, 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow.' Huzzas for the king of France, for Washington and the Republic, with caps tossed high in air and a rattling fire through the whole line terminated the humble pageant."—From Carrington's "Battles of the American Revolution."

BYNG'S COUNTRYMEN.—For a description of these tournaments read Thackeray's *Virginian*, Chap. xci.

GEORGE ROBERTS, read Spark's *Writings of Washington*, vol. v, p. 409.



BRIDGE OVER VALLEY FORCE CREEK

ing up the Gulf Road, covered with dust and sweat, with the news that the British had evacuated Philadelphia. Six brigades were at once in motion,—the rest of the army prepared to follow with all possible despatch early on the 19th. The bridge across the Schuylkill was laden with tramping troops. Cannon rumbled rapidly down the road to the river. The scanty baggage was packed, the flag at headquarters taken down, the last brigade descended the river-bank, the huts were empty, the breast-works deserted, the army was off for Monmouth, and the hills of Valley Forge were left alone with their glory and their dead. The last foreign foe had left the soil of Pennsylvania forever. Yes, the last foreign foe! Who could foretell the mysteries of the future? Who foresee the trials that were yet to come? Little did the sons of New England and the South, who starved

Washington, feeling assured of the evacuation of Philadelphia, prepared for the event, and on the 18th of May directed General Lafayette, with a corps of 2500 picked men, to occupy Barren Hill, observe the movements of the enemy, and in the event of their retreat across New Jersey, to fall upon their left and rear while he would follow as rapidly as possible with the main army. The assignment of this youthful officer to the command of an independent expedition composed of the flower of the army, charged with duties certain to expose him to trials and perils of the most extraordinary character, illustrates the boundless confidence in him; and the manner in which he acquitted himself in disconcerting the plans laid by Howe, Clinton, Grant, and Sir William Erskine to destroy or capture him and his command marks him as an officer of quick and brilliant perceptions upon the field of battle and brave to a fault.

and froze and died here in the snow together, think, as their eyes beheld for the last time the little flag that meant for them a common country, that the time would come when, amid sound of cannon, their children, met again on Pennsylvania soil, would confront each other in the splendid agony of battle! Sorrow was their portion, but it was not given them to suffer this. It was theirs to die in the gloomiest period of their country's history, but certain that her salvation was assured. It was theirs to go down into the grave rejoicing in the belief that their lives were sacrifice enough, blessedly unconscious that the liberty for which they struggled demanded that three hundred thousand of their children should with equal courage and devotion lay down their lives in its defence. Happy alike they who died before that time and we who have survived it! And, thank God this day, that its shadow has passed away forever. The sins of the fathers visited upon the children have been washed away in blood,—the sacrifice has been accepted,—the expiation has been complete. The men of North and South whose bones moulder on these historic hill-sides did not die in vain. The institutions which they gave us we preserve,—the Freedom for which

PENNSYLVANIA SOIL refers to the battle of Gettysburg, which occurred July 1-3, 1863. The forces engaged during this three days' battle numbered between 70,000 and 80,000 on each side. The Federal loss was 2834 killed, 13,709 wounded, and 6643 missing, making a total of 23,186. The total Confederate loss was 31,621.

they fought is still our birthright,—the flag under which they died floats above our heads on this anniversary, the emblem of a redeemed, regenerate, reunited country. The union of those States still stands secure. Enemies within and foes without have failed to break it, and the spirit of faction, from whatever quarter or in whatever cause, can no more burst its holy bonds asunder than can we separate in this sacred soil the dust of Massachusetts and that of Carolina from that Pennsylvania dust in whose embrace it has slumbered for a century, and with which it must forever be indistinguishably mingled.

#### THE GLORY OF VALLEY FORGE

Such, then, is the history of this famous place. To my mind it has a glory all its own. The actions which have made it famous stand by themselves. It is not simply because they were heroic. Brave deeds have sanctified innumerable places in every land. The men of our revolution were not more brave than their French allies, or their German cousins, or their English brethren. Courage belongs alike to all men. Nor were they the only men in history who suffered. Others

Give the history of this famous place. In what respect has it a glory of its own? Give instances where brave deeds have sanctified innumerable places in every land. In what did the heroism of Valley Forge consist? What momentous things were intrusted to the keeping of the heroes of Valley Forge? *Show how courage belongs alike to all men.*

have borne trial as bravely, endured with the same patience, died with as perfect a devotion. But it is not given to all men to die in the best of causes or win the greatest victories. It was the rare fortune of those who were assembled here a hundred years ago that, having in their keeping the most momentous things that were ever intrusted to a people, they were at once both faithful and victorious. The army that was encamped here was but a handful, but what host ever defended so much? And what spot of Earth has had a farther reaching and happier influence on the human race than this?

Is it that which the traveller beholds when from Pentelicus he looks down on Marathon? The life of Athens was short, and the liberty which was saved on that immortal field she gave up ingloriously more than

MARATHON, a small plain near the shore of the Gulf of Marathon, about 20 miles northeast of Athens. On the plain of Marathon, Miltiades, the Athenian general, defeated the Persian king and saved Greece, 490 B. C.

PENTELICUS, a mountain in Greece, ten miles northeast of Athens, rises to 3640 feet above the sea.

Why was the life of Athens short? Why is the battlefield of Marathon regarded as immortal? Tell how liberty was saved on that immortal field. Did Athens profit by her great victory? Describe the Athenian civilization. What is meant by the expression, "the boundaries of her tiny state were larger than her heart"? Why was Athens a prodigy of short lived splendor? Why should Athens be held up as a warning rather than an *example*? What are the "forest cantons"? What is meant by a "*sterile independence*"?

twenty centuries ago. The tyranny she resisted so gallantly from without she practised cruelly at home. The sword which she wielded so well in her own defence she turned as readily against her children. Her civilization, brilliant as it was, was narrow, and her spirit selfish. The boundaries of her tiny state were larger than her heart, whose sympathy could not include more than a part of her own kindred. Her aspirations were pent up in herself, and she stands in history to-day a prodigy of short-lived splendor,—a warning rather than example. Is it any one of those, where the men of the forest cantons fell on the invader like an avalanche from their native Alps and crushed him out of existence? The bravery of the Swiss achieved only a sterile independence, which his native mountains defended as well as he, and he tarnished his glory forever when the sword of Morgarten was hawked about the courts of Europe, and the victor of Grandson and Morat sold himself to the foreign shambles of the highest bidder.

MORGARTEN, a narrow pass in central Switzerland, between Morgarten Hill and Lake Egeri, noted for a victory of the Swiss over the Austrians, November 16, 1315. The Swiss were fighting for freedom from the Austrian rule. They attacked the Austrians while they were marching through the pass, hurling down great rocks from the hills, and then charging so fiercely that nearly all of their enemies were killed.

GRANDSON, a decayed town in Switzerland, on shore of Lake Neuchatel. It is memorable for the victory achieved in its vicinity in 1476 by the Swiss over Charles the Bold.

MORAT, a town of Switzerland. Charles the Bold was defeated here by the Swiss confederates in 1476.



Or is it that still more famous field, where the Belgian lion keeps guard over the dead of three great nations? There, three-and-sixty years ago yesterday, the armies of Europe met in conflict. It was the war of giants.

#### VALLEY FORGE AND WATERLOO

On the one side England, the first power of the age, flushed with victory, of inexhaustible resources, redoubtable by land and invincible by sea, and Prussia, vigorous by nature, stronger by adversity, hardened by suffering, full of bitter memories and hungry for revenge, and on the other France, once mistress of the Continent, the arbiter of nations, the conqueror of Wagram and Marengo and Friedland and Austerlitz,—spent at last in her own service, crushed rather by the weight of her victories than by the power of her enemies' arms,—turning in her bloody footsteps, like a wounded lion, to

When was the battle of Waterloo fought? Name the opposing generals. Locate this battlefield. Why does Mr. Brown call it a war of giants? What nations were engaged in this conflict? What is the modern interpretation of the term "Waterloo"? What is meant by the expression "redoubtable by land and invincible by sea"? Why did he characterize the Prussians as "vigorous by nature"? "strong by adversity"? "hardened by suffering"? "full of bitter memories"? When was France mistress of the Continent? What is meant by "the arbiter of nations"? Who was the hero of Wagram, Marengo, Friedland, and Austerlitz? Locate these battlefields.

WAGRAM, a village of lower Austria, eleven miles northeast of Vienna. *It is famous for the victory of Napoleon over the Austrians, gained here on July 6, 1809.*

spring with redoubled fury at the throat of her pursuers. Behold the conflict as it raged through the long June day, while all the world listened and held its breath!

The long lines of red, the advancing columns of blue, the glitter of burnished steel, the roll of drums, the clangor of trumpets, the cheering of men, the fierce attack, the stubborn resistance, the slow recoil, the rattle of musketry, the renewed assault, the crash of arms, the roar of cannons, the clatter of the charging cavalry, the cries of the combatants, the clash of sabres, the shrieks of the dying, the confused retreat, the gallant rally, the final charge, the sickening repulse, the last struggle, the shouts of the victors, the screams of the vanquished, the wild confusion, the blinding smoke, the awful uproar, the unspeakable rout, the furious pursuit, the sounds dying in the distance, the groans of the wounded, the falling of the summer rain, the sighing of the evening breeze, the solemn silence of the night. Climb the steps that lead to the summit of the mound that marks that place to-day. There is no spot in Europe more famous than

BELGIAN LION, the Mont du Lion, is 200 feet high and about 1700 feet in circumference, on the summit of which stands, on a lofty pedestal, an immense bronze lion, 48,000 pounds in weight.

MARENGO, a locality in Piedmont, Italy. It is memorable for the battle of June 14, 1800, between Napoleon and the Austrians, in which the latter were defeated.

FRIEDLAND, a town of East Prussia. Here the French defeated the allied Russians and Prussians, June 14, 1807.

AUSTERLITZ, a town of Moravia, twelve miles southeast of Brunn. It is celebrated for the victory gained by Napoleon over the emperors of Austria and Russia, December 2, 1805

the field beneath your feet. In outward aspect it is not unlike this which we behold here. The hills are not so high nor the valleys so deep, but the general effect of field and farm, of ripening grain and emerald woodland, is much the same. It has not been changed. There is the château of Houguomont on the west, and the forest through which the Prussians came on the east; on yonder hill the Emperor watched the battle; beneath you, Ney made the last of many charges,—the world knows it all by heart. The traveller of every race turns toward it his footsteps. It is the most celebrated battle-field of Europe and of modern times.

But what did that great victory accomplish? It broke the power of one nation and asserted the independ-

HOUGUOMONT: For a graphic description of Houguomont, read "Les Misérables" by Victor Hugo.

Who commanded the Prussians? In what respect did Napoleon's defeat revenge the memory of Jena and Corunna? How did it break the spell that made the fated name of Napoleon the bond of an empire almost universal.

MARSHALL NEY, a famous French General. Napoleon called him the bravest of the brave, and for his valor at Elchingen gave him the title of Duke of Elchingen. At Waterloo he had five horses shot under him. When Napoleon was finally conquered, he was tried for desertion and condemned to be shot.

Why should the whole world be interested in the battle of Waterloo? Why is it the most famous battlefield in Europe? Is the introduction and description of the battle of Waterloo a digression from the main discourse? Can you justify this digression? Does the digression violate the unity of the oration? *Is the description of this battle vivid? Have you a clear mental picture of it?*

ence of the rest. It took from France an Emperor and gave her back a King, a ruler whom she had rejected in place of one whom she had chosen, a Bourbon for a Bonaparte, a King by Divine right for an Emperor by the people's will. It revenged the memory of Jena and Corunna, and broke the spell that made the fated name Napoleon the bond of an empire almost universal; it struck down one great man and fixed a dozen small ones on the neck of Europe. But what did it bequeath to us besides the ever-precious example of heroic deeds? Nothing. What did they who conquered there achieve? Fame for themselves, woe for the vanquished, glory for England, revenge for Prussia, shame for France, nothing for Humanity, nothing for Liberty, nothing for Civilization, nothing for the Rights of Man. One of the great Englishmen of that day declared that it had turned

BOURBON, a member of a family which has occupied European thrones.

NAPOLÉON, general of the French army in Italy; commander in Egypt; First Consul of France, Emperor of the French; an exile in the island of St. Helena.

JENA, a town of Germany, twelve miles southeast of Weimar. Here, on October 14, 1806, Napoleon totally defeated the Prussians.

CORUNNA, a fortified city of Spain in Galicia.

What was achieved by the conquerors of Waterloo? What great principles were involved in the war of the American Revolution? What great document enunciated a new principle to the world in regard to the rights of man? State that principle. What great Englishman declared that the battle of Waterloo had turned back the hands of the dial of the world's progress for fifty years? What did he mean by that expression? What

back the hands of the dial of the world's progress for fifty years. And, said an English poetess,—

The Kings crept out again to feel the sun,  
The Kings crept out—the peoples sat at home,  
And finding the long-invoked peace,  
A pall embroidered with worn images  
Of rights divine, too scant to cover doom  
Such as they suffered—curst the corn that grew  
Rankly to bitter bread on Waterloo.

#### THE SPIRIT OF LIBERTY

My countrymen:—For a century the eyes of struggling nations have turned towards this spot, and lips in every language have blessed the memory of Valley Forge! The tide of battle never ebbed and flowed upon these banks; these hills never trembled beneath the tread of charging squadrons nor echoed the thunders of contending cannon. The blood that stained this ground did not rush forth in the joyous frenzy of the fight; it

English poetess is quoted in the text? Why have struggling nations turned their eyes toward Valley Forge? Why is the memory of Valley Forge blessed to every liberty-loving patriot?

If history has its lessons, what is the lesson of Valley Forge? Why is Valley Forge one of the altars erected by our forefathers to Liberty and to Humanity? In what respect was this encampment a factor in the great work of civilization in its onward sweep of progress and development? Is patriotism a sentiment? Is it a principle born in our nature and part of our humanity? For what did the soldiers of the Revolution fight? What did they defend? What did they have in their keeping? In what *were the heroes of Valley Forge distinguished from the heroes of Waterloo?*

fell drop by drop from the heart of a suffering people. They who once encamped here in the snow fought not for conquest, not for power, not for glory, not for their country only, not for themselves alone. They served here for posterity; they suffered here for the human race; they bore here the cross of all the peoples; they died here that Freedom might be the heritage of all. It was Humanity which they defended; it was Liberty herself that they had in keeping,—she that was sought in the wilderness and mourned for by the waters of Babylon,—that was saved at Salamis and thrown away at Chæronœa,—that was fought for at Cannæ and lost forever at Pharsalia and Philippi,—she who confronted the Armada on the deck with Howard and rode beside Cromwell on the field of Worcester,—for whom the Swiss gathered into his breast the sheaf of spears at

BABYLON, the ancient capital of the Babylonio-Chaldean empire.

SALAMIS, an island of Greece in the Gulf of Aegina. On the eastern shore the Greeks under Themistocles gained a memorable naval victory over the Persians, 480 B. C.

CHÆRONEA, an ancient city of Greece, famous for a victory gained by Philip of Macedon over the Athenians and Thebans, 338 B. C., and for Sulla's victory over the general of Mithridates.

CANNÆ, an ancient town of Italy, memorable for the victory which Hannibal gained over the Romans in its vicinity in 216 B. C.

PHARSALIA, a town of Greece in Thessaly. It was on the Pharsalian Plain that Cæsar overwhelmed Pompey in 48 B. C.

PHILIPPI, an ancient town of Macedonia. In the plain west of it, the battles took place in which Octavius and Anthony defeated Brutus and Cassius.

Sempach and the Dutchman broke the dykes of Holland and welcomed in the sea,—she of whom Socrates spoke and Plato wrote and Brutus dreamed and Homer sung,—for whom Eliot pleaded and Sydney suffered and Milton prayed and Hampden fell! Driven by the persecution of centuries from the older world, she had come with Pilgrim and Puritan and Cavalier and Quaker to seek a shelter in the new. Attacked once more by her

ARMADA, a great fleet sent by Philip II of Spain against England in 1588. It was met and defeated by the English fleet of about 180 vessels, under Lord Howard, in English Channel in August, 1588.

OLIVER CROMWELL, on the field of Worcester, September 3, 1651, overwhelmed the army of Charles II.

SEMPACH, a town of Switzerland. In its vicinity, in 1386, a body of Swiss routed a greatly superior force of Austrians. The story of Arnold of Winkelried is associated with this battle.

SOCRATES, a famous Greek philosopher, born near Athens, about 470 B. C.

PLATO, a famous Greek philosopher and teacher of Aristotle; the founder of the Academic School.

BRUTUS, a Roman politician and scholar.

HOMER, the poet to whom is assigned by very ancient tradition the authorship of the Iliad and the Odyssey.

JOHN ELIOT was one of the few men who treated the Indians kindly. He spent his life in earnest efforts to Christianize them.

SIR PHILIP SIDNEY, a famous English author, soldier, and courtier. He came to his death on the field of Zutphen, whither he had been sent by the queen to aid those provinces in their struggle with Philip II. While being carried from the field, wounded and faint, he called for a drink; but as he was about to put the bottle to his lips, he saw a poor soldier looking longingly at the bottle. Sir Philip, before he had tasted a drop, at

old enemies, she had taken refuge here. Nor she alone. The dream of the Greek, the Hebrew's prophecy, the desire of the Roman, the Italian's prayer, the longing of the German mind, the hope of the French heart, the glory and honor of Old England herself, the yearning of all the centuries, the aspiration of every age, the promise

once handed it to the man with the words, "Thy necessity is yet greater than mine."

JOHN MILTON, a famous English poet, author of *Paradise Lost*, etc.

JOHN HAMPDEN, a celebrated English statesman who, when twenty-seven years old, was elected to Parliament and soon showed himself a strong lover of liberty. He became the most popular man in England. When civil war broke out, he raised a regiment and marched against the king.

The PILGRIMS came to America in 1620 to escape religious persecution. They did not like the ceremonies of the Established Church, and went so far as to separate themselves from it; hence they were called Separatists.

The PURITANS were so called from their desire to purify the ceremonies of the Church of England. They did not separate themselves from the church as did the Pilgrims, but desired to purify it from within. The settlers of Massachusetts Bay came from this sect.

CAVALIER, the name given, from their gay dress and demeanor, to the supporters of Charles I. during the great civil war in England. The execution of Charles I., in 1649, had driven great numbers of his friends to Virginia. It was the promised land of "distressed Cavaliers," as the old narratives called them, and they flowed to Virginia in a stately stream during the Commonwealth period.

The QUAKERS; the religious sect most severely persecuted in England after the restoration of the king was the *Society of Friends*, whose members were sometimes called Quakers.



of the past, the fulfilment of the future, the seed of the old time, the harvest of the new,—all these were with her. And here, in the heart of America, they were safe. The last of many struggles was almost won; the best of many centuries was about to break; the time was already come when from these shores the light of a new civilization should flash across the sea, and from this place a voice of triumph make the Old World tremble, when, from her chosen refuge in the West, the Spirit of Liberty should go forth to meet the rising sun and set the people free!

#### THE NEW CENTURY

Americans:—A hundred years have passed away, and that civilization and that liberty are still your heritage. But think not that such an inheritance can be kept safe without exertion. It is the burden of your happiness that with it Privilege and Duty go hand-in-hand together. You cannot shirk the present and enjoy in the future the blessings of the past. Yesterday begot to-day, and to-day is the parent of to-morrow. The old time may be secure, but the new time is uncertain. The dead are safe; it is the privilege of the living to be

What is the heritage of the American people? How was it secured? How may it be safeguarded? What is our civic duty in regard to the future? Why is the political future uncertain? What is the privilege of the living? How is a country benefited by great actions? In what way may we convert the honor of Valley Forge into an eternal shame? In what way may we make *the glory of Valley Forge ours*? Why is it in the interest of our *country to keep the anniversaries of great events*?

•

in peril. A country is benefited by great actions only so long as her children are able to repeat them. The memory of this spot shall be an everlasting honor for our fathers, but we can make it an eternal shame for ourselves if we choose to do so. The glory of Lexington and Bunker Hill and Saratoga and Valley Forge belongs not to you and me, but we can make it ours if we will. It is well for us to keep these anniversaries of great events; it is well for us to meet by thousands on these historic spots; it is well to walk by those unknown graves or follow the windings of the breastworks that encircle yonder hill; it is well for us to gather beneath yon little fort, which the storms of so many winters have tenderly spared to look down on us to-day; it is well to commemorate the past with song and eulogy and pleasant festival,—but it is not enough.

If they could return whose forms have been passing in imagination before our eyes; if in the presence of this holy hour the dead could rise and lips dumb for a century find again a tongue, might they not say to us: You do well, countrymen, to commemorate this time; you do well to honor those who yielded up their lives in glory here. Theirs was a perfect sacrifice, and the debt you

Why is it not enough to commemorate the past with song and eulogy and pleasant festival?

If the heroic dead of Valley Forge could rise and speak, what message would they communicate to their countrymen? Compare and contrast your country of 1777–1778 with your country of to-day, as to territory, population, wealth, natural resources, blessings, privileges, opportunities, and power.

owe them you can never pay. Your lines have fallen in a happier time. The boundaries of your Union stretch from sea to sea. You enjoy all the blessings which Providence can bestow,—a peace we never knew, a wealth we never hoped for, a power of which we never dreamed. Yet think not that these things only can make a nation great. We laid the foundations of your happiness in a time of trouble, in days of sorrow and perplexity, of doubt, distress, and danger, of cold and hunger, of suffering and want. We built it up by virtue, by courage, by self-sacrifice, by unfailing patriotism, by unceasing vigilance. By those things alone did we win your liberties; by them only can you hope to keep them. Do you revere our names? Then follow our example. Are you proud of our achievements? Then try to imitate them. Do you honor our memories? Then do as we have done. You yourselves owe something to America better than all those things which you spread before her with such lavish hand,—something which she needs as much in her prosperity to-day as ever in the sharpest crisis of her fate. For you

What makes a nation great? Under what condition was the foundation of our nation laid?

How was the greatness of our nation built up? How were our liberties won? What is liberty? How can we expect to keep our liberties? What is the great need of America to-day? What duties have we to perform? What should be the aim and ambition of every American patriot? Name some lofty examples *that should guide us in our civic duty. Name the elements of true patriotism.*

have duties to perform as well as we. It was ours to create; it is yours to preserve. It was ours to found; it is yours to perpetuate. It was ours to organize; it is yours to purify! And what nobler spectacle can you present to mankind to-day than that of a people honest, steadfast, and secure,—mindful of the lessons of experience,—true to the teachings of history,—led by the loftiest examples, and bound together to protect their institutions at the close of the century, as their fathers were to win them at the beginning, by the ties of “Virtue, Honor, and Love of Country,”—by that Virtue which makes perfect the happiness of a people,—by that Honor which constitutes the chief greatness of a State,—by that Patriotism which survives all things, braves all things, endures all things, achieves all things, and which, though it find a refuge nowhere else, should live in the heart of every true American?

My countrymen:—The century that has gone by has changed the face of nature and wrought a revolution in the habits of mankind. We to-day behold the dawn

How does virtue contribute to the perfect happiness of a people? How does honor constitute the chief greatness of a state? Name some instances in American history of dishonor? What is the test of true patriotism? In what way has the face of nature been changed? In what respect has the past century wrought a revolution in the habits of mankind? Why do we stand at the dawn of an extraordinary century? In what way has man robbed the earth of her secrets and has sought to solve the mysteries of heaven?

of an extraordinary age. Freed from the chains of ancient thought and superstition, man has begun to win the most extraordinary victories in the domain of science. One by one he has dispelled the doubts of the ancient world. Nothing is too difficult for his hand to attempt,—no region too remote,—no place too sacred for his daring eye to penetrate. He has robbed the Earth of her secrets, and sought to solve the mysteries of the Heavens! He has secured and chained to his service the elemental forces of nature; he has made the fire his steed; the winds his ministers; the seas his pathway; the lightning his messenger. He has descended into the bowels of the earth, and walked in safety on the bottom of the sea. He has raised his head above the clouds, and made the impalpable air his resting-place. He has tried to analyze the stars, count the constellations, and weigh the sun. He has advanced with such astounding speed that, breathless, we have reached a moment when it seems as if distance had been annihilated, time made as naught, the invisible seen, the inaudible heard, the unspeakable spoken, the intangible felt, the impossible accomplished. And already we knock at the door of a new century which promises to be infinitely brighter and more enlightened and happier than this. But in all this blaze of light which illuminates the present and casts its reflection

In what way do you think the twentieth century to be infinitely *brighter, more enlightened, and happier than the nineteenth century?*

into the distant recesses of the past, there is not a single ray that shoots into the future. Not one step have we taken toward the solution of the mystery of life. That remains to-day as dark and unfathomable as it was ten thousand years ago.

We know that we are more fortunate than our fathers. We believe that our children shall be happier than we. We know that this century is more enlightened than the last. We hope that the time to come will be better and more glorious than this. We think, we believe, we hope, but we do not know. Across that threshold we may not pass; behind that veil we may not penetrate. Into that country it may not be for us to go. It may be vouchsafed to us to behold it, wonderingly, from afar, but never to enter in. It matters not. The age in which we live is but a link in the endless and eternal chain. Our lives are like the sands upon the shore; our voices like the breath of this summer breeze that stirs the leaf for a moment and is forgotten. Whence we have come and whither we shall go not one

Have we solved the mystery of life? Why are we more fortunate than our fathers? Why should our children be happier than we?

The peroration serves to sum up the main points in the discussion; to make certain points more emphatic; or to make a pleasing and favorable impression upon the audience. What purpose does this peroration serve? Does it restate the main themes of the discussion? if so, what are they? Does the *peroration* match the discussion? Is the style different from the *treatment* of the theme? If so, in what respect?

of us can tell. And the last survivor of this mighty multitude shall stay but a little while.

But in the impenetrable To Be, the endless generations are advancing to take our places as we fall. For them as for us shall the Earth roll on, and the seasons come and go, the snowflakes fall, the flowers bloom, and the harvests be gathered in. For them as for us shall the sun, like the life of man, rise out of darkness in the morning and sink into darkness in the night. For them as for us shall the years march by in the sublime procession of the ages. And here, in this place of Sacrifice, in this vale of Humiliation, in this valley of the Shadow of that Death out of which the Life of America rose regenerate and free, let us believe with an abiding faith that to them Union will seem as dear, and Liberty as sweet, and Progress as glorious as they were to our fathers, and are to you and me, and that the Institutions which have made us happy, preserved by the virtue of our children, shall bless the remotest generations of the time to come. And unto Him who holds in the hollow of His hand the fate of nations, and yet marks the sparrow's fall, let us lift up our hearts this day, and into His eternal care commend ourselves, our children, and our country.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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### I. THE MAN—HENRY ARMITT BROWN

ONE of the greatest orators that this country has produced was once asked, what are the elements that go to make up a great oration? He replied, "*the man, the place, and the occasion.*" Judged by this standard, Henry Armitt Brown's oration at Valley Forge, June 19, 1878, demonstrates the fact that as an orator he was the peer of Sumner and Phillips; reaching up to the plane of Everett; and, like the great French orators, his speech was finished, classic, evenly sustained, and with an elegance of style. He had four qualities of an orator—a masterful will, personal magnetism, a flexible and musical voice, and an exquisitely finished elocution. At a little over thirty years of age he held, as it were, entranced thousands by his great reasoning and eloquence. Looking around among the orators of the day, we see but a few who have not gained a good ripe age before they have attained that great sublimity of mind and character which seemed bound up in him.

"The young men of our country should make his life a study; no more perfect model can be found, for in him they see what a young man has done, and what other young men can do. His example should serve to stimulate the young and noble-minded to exalted aims.

"The young men in our American colleges should, we think, ever look forward to becoming public men, the recognized servants of the republic; and they should act upon the principle that, from the very talents intrusted to them, they are expected to become the strong stays and helpers of the commonwealth.



By so doing they will follow in his footsteps, whose life is imperfectly set forth in these pages, and who fell on the 'high places of the field' to make room for them to follow."

#### HIS CHILDHOOD AND EARLY YOUTH

HENRY ARMITT BROWN was born in the city of Philadelphia, December 1, 1844. His father was a representative business man; his mother was Charlotte Augusta Hoppin, from whom he inherited his literary tastes.

"Harry was a sweet-tempered child, delicately strung and extremely sensitive to the touch and sight of harsh things, as if unfit to be stretched on this rough world, imaginative, curious in his questionings, sympathetic and affectionate, but stubborn of will, and apt to see things in a very independent and ludicrously odd light."

"When an older boy, his favorite pastime was studying the histories of great battles, especially those of Napoleon, and in arranging and moving companies of tin soldiers and parks of artillery according to the changing plans of the battles. This play was carried on so large a scale as to attract the attention of the neighbors and of older people to the extent of the combinations. One whole portion of the garden thus employed would become the scene of a wide and hurrying conflict, platoons of soldiers shifting across the field, forts blowing up, dwellings in flames, rivers crossed, and discharge of artillery from the flying batteries."

He became so absorbed in his military plans that, until he was fourteen years of age, his one great ambition was to become a great captain. He was so bent upon a military career that he importuned his father, time and time again, to be permitted to go to West Point Military Academy, but was each time refused. As his biographer has said, "This throws some light upon his character, which, as it sometimes happens, beneath an *almost feminine delicacy of organization*, hid a nature of *sinewy ambition fitted to leadership*." He was prepared for college at

the Burlington Academy and at Dr. Lyons School in Haverford, Pennsylvania.

#### HIS COLLEGE LIFE

He entered Yale college in 1861, and it was not long before he cast himself into the current of student life with all his youthful enthusiasm. Here he found a congenial field for his varied talents, identifying himself with every social and literary effort. In resolutions drafted by class committees, in speeches delivered at class suppers; in Delta Kappa, Alpha Sigma Phi, and Psi Upsilon lyrics; in debates and war songs of the Brothers in Unity; in the organization and carrying out the Thanksgiving Jubilees of sophomore, junior and senior years, his pen and voice were foremost. He was soon recognized as a ready and acceptable speaker and was in constant demand. During his college career he not only developed a talent for acting, but the college songs from his pen are sufficient evidence of his talent in this line. Honors were being constantly heaped upon him, but, it must be remembered, that they were won by the sheer force of his intellect. He read much, but not along any definite lines. He was passionately fond of the classics, especially the Latin poets. His independent reading included history, political economy, and philosophy.

Harry Brown was chosen to be class-poet, a deserved tribute to his popularity and ability. "His class-mates were satisfied that a great poet had spoken and what more could be asked?" His college life was irreproachable and his sense of honor exquisite. It was at Yale that he acquired the power to think, to reason, to write, and to speak—four great acquisitions for any man. What college education could do more?

#### SETTLING DOWN TO WORK

Soon after graduation he entered Columbia Law School in New York city, and in the following July, 1866, he sailed for the Continent, where he spent sixteen months visiting all the countries of Europe, with the exception of Russia, Sweden,

Norway, and Spain. Upon his return from Europe he resumed his study of law in the office of Daniel Dougherty, Esq., of Philadelphia, and was admitted to the bar as an attorney, December 18, 1869. He devoted himself faithfully to his legal business, but in April, 1870, he sailed once more for Europe. Upon his return home he settled down to his professional studies. "He shook off the slight dilettantism which was the mingled product of a fondness for society and the cherishing, in a time of life betwixt the ideal and the actual, of something of a Hamlet-like spirit of thoughtful inaction. He was a dreamer, though an earnest one. As in college, while ever pondering it, he had not found his work. He had not heard the bugle call. The associations of early years clung about him, and he was more of a loiterer in those green imaginative meads than a laborer in the real field. He had begun to appreciate the sensible words of another, "Of all the work that produces results, nine-tenths must be drudgery."

Mr. Brown became an active member of the Philadelphia Shakespeare Society, and his friends claim that the influence of his study of Shakespeare is perceptible in its power upon his oratory, giving it elegant finish, condensation, and tactical dexterity in dealing with mind.

#### A PUBLIC DISCOVERY

On the 19th of December, 1872, a complimentary dinner was given to the Hon. Ex-Chief Justice Thompson. The best legal talent of the city was present. The eighth and last toast of the evening was "The Juniors of the Bar." This toast was assigned to Henry Armitt Brown. This announcement caused some surprise, due to the fact that he was so recent a member of the bar. But these feelings were soon dispelled as his exquisitely finished elocution fell upon the ear. "The Public Ledger" characterized the effort as "one of the marked orations of the evening." And so it was discovered that Harry Brown could speak. From now on his oratorical career was onward and

upward. Ever and anon he was called to the lecture field and the political stump. He had every qualification for the public lecture field, and would have rivalled the most shining names upon the public platform if he had followed out this career.

In the mean time he was married, December 7, 1871, to Miss Josephine Lea, of Philadelphia—a union of rare happiness and congeniality of mind.

A new field presented itself to his claims and oratorical powers. It was the Centennial Epoch of memorializing the great events of the country's history. Harry Brown had not yet won his greatest triumph. He was invited to deliver the oration in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, on the one hundredth anniversary of the meeting of Congress of 1774. Of this address the "Philadelphia Press" said, "As the exercises continued, and the oration of the day was being delivered, the whole aspect of the assembly changed. Those there seated were no longer men of business, but sons of liberty, who had suddenly realized the grandeur of their birthright. The thrilling oration fanned into a white-heat the long-smothered embers of patriotism, until the air seemed heavy with the magnetic influence of deep emotion and mental excitement. The scene was one never to be forgotten. Old men whose years overlapped the nineties stood erect with a renewed youth, and waved their hats in the air, and the young men, to whom the word liberty had long been so familiar as to have become an empty sound, seemed suddenly to realize the deep significance of the term, and to long for some way of proving their devotion to a government which had cost such precious blood to gain."

His next oratorical triumph was won at the old Quaker town of Burlington, New Jersey, December 6, 1877, on the occasion of its two hundredth anniversary of its formation. The style of this oration, while finished, was not highly rhetorical. It was in quaint good taste, as befitting the peaceful old Quaker town about which its loving memories linger.

Near the beginning of the last year of his life Mr. Brown had been asked to deliver an oration on the anniversary of the evac-

uation of Valley Forge. The delivery of this oration on June 19, 1878, was the last and most brilliant of Mr. Brown's public efforts. From this celebration Mr. Brown went home, it might be literally said, to die. Low in strength, and using up all his physical energy he had in speaking, he contracted a fever at or about the time of the celebration. For eight weeks there was a succession of hopes and fears. He died August 21, 1878, at the age of thirty-three years.

#### AS AN ORATOR

"Henry Armitt Brown, though a man of uncommonly varied gifts was a born orator."

"With the exception of Patrick Henry, Henry Clay, and Daniel Webster, no speaker in the land ever had moments of completer triumphs than he over the mind and feelings of his hearers."

"He was not unlike Edmund Burke, ever espousing the cause of justice, and had he lived he would have ranked with that eminent essayist and statesman."

#### HIS METHODS

"He always read in advance of his writing, and would search indefatigably in any direction for matter bearing upon the subject. He went to first causes. He spared himself no pains. The result was something of rare and permanent value. He liked to read what he had collected to his wife or to a friend, and their interest would stimulate him, and, while talking it over, his mind would become thoroughly aroused. The committing to memory never seemed to give him the least uneasiness, and one day usually sufficed for that, no matter how much matter there was. He thus filled his mind with the subject and spoke, though from memory, with the inspiration of the theme."

#### HIS STYLE

*"Not in a massive style, like Bright's oratory, nor in cumulative epithet, like Sumner's, nor in epigrammatic brilliancy, like*

Beaconsfield's, nor in broad philosophic discussion, like Gladstone's, nor in the magnificent marshalling of fact and phrase, like Macaulay's, nor in the coarse, passionate vigor, like O'Connell's. He did not have all forces combined—who does? His speech was more like that of the great French orators, finished and classic, without display of violence or undisciplined imagination. He had an elegance of style not incompatible with the highest vigor. He won by a forceful but steady pressure."

#### AS A MAN AMONG MEN

"Young, gifted, vigorous, above all, pure, such was Henry Armitt Brown."

"Whatever he undertook he did to some purpose. As a politician, he was of the highest stamp; as an orator, he had already ranked among the greatest; as a writer, he was forceful, graceful, and scholarly; as a private gentleman, he was modest and unassuming, courteous and chivalric—ever forgetful of self and thoughtful of others."

"Though he labored in different fields, like Burns and Byron, his young life ended ere it had scarcely begun, but, to his perpetual glory be it said, the sun of his life set without a cloud upon it."

"Politics did not lower in him the standard of high morality and honor. His ambition was founded upon his patriotism. Nothing could have tempted his integrity, and no partisanship could have made him subservient to mean or narrow purposes. How safe would be the Republic, and how glorious its destiny, were all its sons like him!"

#### II. THE PLACE—VALLEY FORGE<sup>1</sup>

"The characteristic event of the day and hour, which witnessed the occupation of these hills by the Continental army, presents the immortal Washington as conspicuously devoted to

<sup>1</sup> Selections from an Historical Address by Col. Theo. W. Bean.

the claims of humanity as he was to the more imperative demands of country.

"Historians have uniformly signalized the arrival of the army on this ground as coincident with the famous order of the Commander-in-Chief, dated 'Headquarters on the Schuylkill, Dec. 17, 1777,' congratulating his troops upon the close of campaign, the results accomplished, the heroic conduct of officers and the endurance of men, counseling them to continue in fortitude and patience, assuring his followers that, 'while in some instances he had unfortunately failed, that, upon the whole, heaven had smiled upon their army and crowned them with success; that the end of their warfare was Independence, Liberty, and Peace, and the hope of securing these blessings for themselves and their posterity demanded a continuance of the struggle at every hazard.'

"This was the pleasing side of the picture set in the gilded framework of war's seducing blandishments and panoplied with its field-day glories. But there was another—the shoeless soldiers, the frozen ground, the cheerless hills, the lowering leaden sky that arched them over with gloom. These were the sorrowing and mute witnesses to the true scene of the arrival, and which the artist has thus far failed to place upon canvas. We are not, however, wanting the pen picture. I give it in the language of Mr. George Washington Parke Custis. The brigades had gone into position upon the line of defence indicated by the skilful officer who drew it. The pitiless winter winds swept the hills and valley with unceasing fury, as the December sun sank into banks of snow-clouds, presaging the coming storm. The poverty of supplies in food and raiment was bitterly and profanely bewailed by shivering unpaid officers and half-naked men, as they crowded around the comfortless camp-fire of the bivouac, when suddenly the appearance of the Horse Guard announced the approach of the Commander-in-Chief. The *officer commanding the detachment*, choosing the most favorable ground, *paraded his men to pay their General the honors of a passing salute.* As Washington rode slowly up, he was observed

to be eyeing very earnestly something that attracted his attention on the frozen surface of the road. Having returned the salute with that native grace and dignified manner that won the admiration of the soldiers of the Revolution, the Chief reined in his charger, and ordering the commanding officer to his side, addressed him as follows: 'How comes it, sir, that I have tracked the march of your troops by the blood-stains of their feet upon the frozen ground? Were there no shoes in the commissary's stores that this sad spectacle is to be seen along the public highway?' The officer replied: 'Your Excellency may rest assured that this sight is as painful to my feelings as it can be to yours, but there is no remedy within our reach. When shoes were issued, the different regiments were served in turn; it was our misfortune to be among the last to be served, and the stores became exhausted before we could obtain even the smallest supply.'

"The General was observed to be deeply affected by his officer's description of the soldiers' privations and sufferings. His compressed lips, the heaving of his manly chest, betokened the powerful emotions that were struggling in his bosom, when, turning toward the troops, with a voice tremulous, yet kindly, he exclaimed, 'poor fellows!' Then giving rein to his horse he rode rapidly away.

"The purpose of the Commander-in-Chief in taking position at Valley Forge was to give the greatest measure of protection possible to the state, and to circumscribe the operations of General Howe within limits that would seriously affect his source of supply. To this end, his line was admirably drawn. On the west side of the Schuylkill he extended his right flank to Wilmington, at which point he stationed General Smallwood, with his brigade of infantry, covering the long interval with Morgan's rifle corps and the squadron of cavalry under Major Harry Lee.

"On the east side of the river he occupied as far as White-marsh, placing General Armstrong with a brigade of Pennsylvania militia, so as to cover the principal roads converging at that point; the cavalry, under Major Jameson and Captain McClane, guarded the highways in the direction of Barten and



Chestnut Hills; and, to still further prevent incursions of the enemy northward from Philadelphia, he directed General Pulaski, who was in command of the brigade of cavalry, to go into camp at Trenton, New Jersey.

"The line of defence from the west shore of the Schuylkill River to the base of Mount Joy, at the angle of Valley Creek, occupied commanding ground, and the earthworks and fortifications erected under the direction of General Du Portail were extensive in character and skilfully constructed. The interior line of works and abatis were semicircular in form, crossing from north to south, with one star and two square forts, from which the army could have successfully covered a retreat westward had such a movement become necessary. The interior lines, with the remains of the two square forts, are still discernible, and constitute the only landmarks which the crumbling hand of time has left to guide the pilgrim over these hills. Fortunately for the living of to-day, who have joined us in these commemorative services, and thousands of our countrymen who, though absent, have manifested great interest in the occasion, we are not without reliable data by which we may indicate with accuracy the position of the fourteen brigades of Continental troops encamped within the fortified lines, representing a maximum of seventeen thousand men, but reduced by sickness and the paucity of supplies to the pitiable number of five thousand and twelve effectives.

"The extreme right of the line, commanding the approaches from the southwest, was held by Brigadier-General Charles Scott, of Virginia, upon whose left Brigadier-General Anthony Wayne, commanding the Pennsylvania line, was placed; then in succession from right to left came the brigades of General Enoch Poor, of Massachusetts, General John Glover, of Massachusetts, General Ebenezer Larned, General John Paterson, of Massachusetts, General George Weedon, of Virginia, who connected *with General Peter Muhlenberg of Pennsylvania, holding the extreme left of the line, resting on the Schuylkill at a point where the village of Port Kennedy is now located.*



"The second or supporting line of troops were encamped immediately in front of the interior line of earthworks, still discernible. Brigadier-General William Woodford, of Virginia, held the right, covering the corps of Major-General Henry Knox's artillery, located a short distance to the left and rear; to the left of Woodford, successively, the brigades of General William Maxwell, of New Jersey, General Thomas Conway, of Irish birth, General Jedediah Huntington, of Connecticut, connecting with the brigade of General James M. Varnum, of Massachusetts; on the extreme left, covering the bridge over the Schuylkill River, built by General Sullivan, Brigadier-General Lachlan McIntosh, of Scottish birth, a Georgian by adoption, with the remaining brigade, was encamped in the rear of the second line of intrenchments, a short distance east of the Potts Mansion, occupied by the Commander-in-Chief; near by and to the left of McIntosh, Washington's body-guard, commanded by Major Gibbs, of Rhode Island, was encamped; still farther to the west, and on the opposite side of the Valley Creek, the artificers of the army were quartered in huts with large log buildings for workshops.

"The bake-house, used for the double purpose of furnishing food for the army, and as a place for holding courts-martial, was located within a few yards of these workshops. By the 20th of December the army was in position as indicated, and the order to construct huts for the winter was issued. Soldiers became axemen from necessity; before them fell the forest, and hundreds of log houses grew as by magic.

Major-Generals Lafayette, DeKalb, and Stirling established their headquarters for the winter with the army, and were alternately assigned to important field and detached duty during the winter. Major-General Charles Lee, at the time a prisoner of war, was subsequently exchanged for General Prescott and returned to this camp, together with Major-General Thomas Mifflin, of Pennsylvania, who had been absent some months.

*"The following staff officers established their headquarters near the Potts Mansion: Major-General Nathanael Greene, of Rhode Island, Quartermaster-General of the Army; Major-*

General Baron Steuben, Inspector-General; Brigadier-General Du Portail, Chief Engineer; Colonel Timothy Pickering, Adjutant-General, and Colonel Alexander Hamilton, Aide-de-Camp. Long before the works for defence were completed or the huts that were to shelter the army were finished, the bitter cry of hunger, from thousands of brave and heroic men, reached the ears and heart of Washington. He appealed in vain to the Government for supplies. The hasty removal of Congress from Philadelphia to Lancaster, thence to York, had its disorganizing effects upon all the departments, especially upon those of the Quartermaster and Commissary.

"To overcome in some measure the pressing necessity which threatened the dissolution of his army, as early as the 20th of December, 1777, Washington issued the following order: 'By virtue of the power and direction especially given, I hereby enjoin and require all persons residing within seventy miles of my headquarters to thresh one-half of their grain by the first day of March next ensuing, on pain in case of failure, of having all, that shall remain in sheaves, after the period above mentioned, seized by the Commissaries and Quartermaster of the army and paid for as straw.' In the absence of blankets, the want of straw, as well as grain, was sorely felt by the army; farmers in the immediate vicinity had suffered great loss by the presence of both armies in their midst. Under these circumstances it was not surprising that those who had stowed away the grain and hay that was relied upon to keep body and soul together for another year were tardy in threshing it out. The order of the Commander-in-Chief went direct to the vital point. Tradition says that, throughout the length and breadth of Washington's seventy miles, could be heard from morn till night two or three threshers on every barn-floor."

Dr. Thatcher, in his private journal, states, that "it was with the greatest difficulty that men enough could be found in a fit condition to discharge the military camp duties from day to day, and for this purpose those who were naked borrowed of those more fortunate in having covering for their bodies and shoes for

their feet. Yet amidst the sufferings and privations endured by these devoted troops week after week and month after month, pelted by the storms of one of the severest winters ever known in this region, the love of country, the hope of victory, and an abiding confidence in their great leader sustained them until, in the Providence of God, the cause found an ally, whose offices of friendship, long and ardently hoped for by the chivalrous Lafayette, was finally assured by the diplomacy of our own glorious Franklin."

Passing from the gloom of the command we are met with the perils of the Commander.

The surrender of Burgoyne on the Hudson, due primarily to the comprehensive direction of Washington, successfully carried into execution by Major-General Philip Schuyler, who, in an evil hour, was superseded by Major-General Horatio Gates, giving to the latter officer easy honors and bringing to his standard the disaffected spirits of the army, as it did the impatient and fawning politicians of the period. The victory of Gates at Saratoga was the inevitable result of conditions precedent to his assuming command in that department, a fact well understood by his contemporaries at the time; and it would seem that a proper respect for the properties of his profession, a due regard for the troops that served him and the superior officers in merit and rank, who made his triumph a possibility, should have induced subsequent conduct upon his part consistent with the highest interest of his country. But it was not so. Assuming honors he never merited and powers never conferred upon him, he covertly sought to destroy personal attachments and inspire public distrust in his Commander-in-Chief.

"Generals Conway and Mifflin, with others of less importance, served his base purpose only too well, and for a time the cabal worked unseen mischief in the attempted alienation of friends and disorganization of the army, which ultimately recoiled upon *those most conspicuously connected with the movement, leaving the character of him they thought to asperse brighter and purer and nobler than ever before.*

"When Washington was apprised of faction by his personal friend, Mr. Laurens, then President of Congress, he replied with a frankness which, while it disclosed a wounded spirit, breathed in every line and sentence his unqualified attachment to the cause and his unselfish love of country.

"The secret intrigues within the army, the violent criticism of partisans in the civil service, the hasty appointment of a new Board of War, consisting first of Major-General Thomas Mifflin, Col. Timothy Pickering, and Col. Robert H. Harrison enlarged, on the 17th of November, 1777, by the addition of Mr. Francis Dana and J. B. Smith, and again on the 27th by the further appointment of General Gates, Joseph Trumbull, and Richard Peters, Gates being chosen chairman, and as thus constituted, evidently in sympathy with the cabal, these circumstances promptly induced a correspondence by Washington with Congress which resulted in the appointment of a committee from that body, consisting of Mr. Francis Dana, General Joseph Reed, Nathaniel Folsom, Charles Carroll, and Gouverneur Morris, to visit the camp at Valley Forge. This committee remained in camp for several weeks and finally drafted a report embodying suggestions generally accredited to the foresight, sagacity, and wisdom of Washington. Their labor was productive of the best results. They restored public confidence and hastened the work of the future by conceding to the Commander-in-Chief the exercise of those powers originally contemplated by the terms of his commission.

"With the explosion of the Conway Cabal, the restoration of public confidence by the patriotic committee of Congress, the induction of Greene into the department of supplies, the assignment of Steuben to the task of organizing and disciplining the army, a burden was lifted from the shoulders of Washington, who, as he calmly surveyed the future, supported by the presence and fidelity of Knox and Stirling, of Hamilton and Pickering and Lafayette, felt that the crisis of his life and country had been reached and passed, and the midnight gloom of the Revolution was broken."

### III. THE OCCASION—THE VALLEY FORGE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

On the 19th of December, 1777, at the close of an unsuccessful campaign, the patriot army of the Revolution, foot-sore and weary, encamped upon the hills at Valley Forge. In the rude huts of the dreary encampment was born the unconquerable will, the courage never to submit or yield, that proved to England and the world that, although the country might be overrun with British soldiers, the people could not be subdued. During those weary months the Continental army received the training and discipline which afterward enabled it to meet the soldiers and mercenaries of Great Britain in equal fight, without ever suffering a defeat. Therefore, on that holy ground, hallowed by hunger and cold, disease and destitution, on the 19th day of June, 1878, which marked the one hundredth anniversary of the departure of the army of the Revolution from winter quarters from Valley Forge, fifty thousand people met in gratitude to commemorate a fortitude in camp superior to courage in battle, a steadfastness more powerful than enthusiasm, and a devotion to a cause and chieftain utterly forgetful of self.

Let us indulge the hope that Valley Forge will ever remain a monument to the loyalty and devotion of this brave band of patriots who, in cold and hunger, watched from those sacred hills for the coming of the dawn of a better day, and to which the people of our beloved land may ever turn to learn the lesson of loyalty and devotion to country.

### SUGGESTIVE QUESTIONS

1. What is an oration?
2. Name the parts of an oration and the purposes of each.
3. Name five great American orators.
4. *What did the great English victory at Waterloo accomplish?*
5. *Why was Washington called the American Fabius?*

6. What was the turning point in the Revolutionary struggle?

7. Enumerate the services of Franklin for his country's cause.

8. Name the soldiers of Valley Forge who were destined to become presidents of the United States.

9. Which soldier at Valley Forge was destined to become the most illustrious judge of the Supreme Court of the United States? which was to announce a doctrine that has kept the American continent free from touch of European politics? which to debase his talents and afterward to be tried for treason?

10. Name some of the burdens that Washington was called upon to bear while at Valley Forge.

11. Give reasons why Valley Forge should be regarded as holy ground.

12. Who said that "fighting will be preferable to starving"?

13. Why was Valley Forge chosen for the winter encampment in preference to Trenton or Wilmington?

14. Who characterized Valley Forge as a "wilderness"?

15. Why was the close of 1777 the gloomiest period of the Revolution?

16. Who was President of the Continental Congress while Washington's army was at Valley Forge?

17. Give an account of the "Conway Cabal."

18. What was Washington's opinion of the soldiers of Valley Forge?

19. Whom did Mr. Brown characterize as the "Knight of the Order of Fidelity"?

20. What was the state of feeling in France about the war in the colonies?

21. Why was France interested in the American struggle?

22. Did the American Revolution have any bearing on the French Revolution?

23. What were the results with the treaty with France?

24. Why was it a fortunate thing for the Americans that between her and her nearest European neighbor lay a thousand leagues of sea?



